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FRONT COVER: Members of the ball-bearing workteam of the heat treatment shop at the Pyongyang Precision-machine Plant are making labour exploits every month in their struggle for carrying out the tasks of economic construction together with defence build-up and of fulfilling the Seven-Year Plan ahead of schedule. Recently they were awarded the honourable title of Chullima Workteam.

Photo by Choi Ryong Chul

BACK COVER: Moranbong Hill in summer

Photo by Kim Ryong Taik

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Part of the nitrogen shop of the Heungnam Fertilizer Combine

UNBREAKABLE UNITY AND SOLIDARITY

THE Korean people observed May Day at a time when the entire nation, upholding the decisions of the historic Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea, was exhibiting the ardent wish for the speedy country's reunification and was waging a grand labour struggle for a new revolutionary upsurge in socialist construction.

To join in Korea's May Day celebrations, over eighty delegations and delegates came to our country from all Continents of the world, whose visits constituted an expression of valuable support and encouragement

to the Korean people who are fighting for an early reunification of their country without outside interference and for the accelerated socialist upbuilding in the northern part of the country. At the same time, their visits testified to a heartwarming proof of firm friendship and solidarity between the Korean people and the toiling people the world over that are advancing shoulder to shoulder for peace, democracy, national independence, and socialism under the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism.

An air of joy and revolution-

ary zeal prevailed in Pyongyang on May Day. Giant demonstrations were held after a colourful rally at Kim Il Sung Square. More than 300,000 citizens—the Red Worker-Peasant Militia, workers, peasants, students and others—partook in the celebrations.

When Premier Kim Il Sung, the leader of the Korean people, mounted the tribune, the whole square resounded with the shouts: "Long live the Workers' Party of Korea!" and "Long live Comrade Kim Il Sung!" Indeed, the scene presented testimony of boundless respect, con-

fidence, and affection the people have for their leader.

The Korean people trust their future to the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung that always leads them to happiness and victory; they are rallied firm round him and filled with revolutionary optimism and creative enthusiasm, and are galloping toward a higher eminence of socialism, putting spurs to Chullima.

Numerous floats, streamers, placards, and others passed by the tribune: some spoke of how the Korean people valued the achievements of the guerillas who had fought against Japanese imperialism for fifteen years before the country's liberation; others showed how the people were endeavouring to carry forward such revolutionary traditions. Then many illustrated the results that the Korean people had registered in the socialist revolution and construction by thoroughly implementing the Party's line of national identity in ideology, independence in politics, self-reliance in economy, and relying on

A grand rally and demonstrations were held to celebrate May Day at Kim Il Sung Square with the participation of more than 300,000—the Red Worker-Peasant Militia, working people and students



Premier Kim Il Sung responding to the cheering crowds

one's own power in national defence.

"Economic construction in parallel with defence build-up!" "A great revolutionary upsurge!" "Be fully ready to usher in the country's reunification, the great event of the nation, with increased output of grains!" were some of the slogans of the participants. All these and others were a manifestation of the firm resolve of the Korean people who, moving along the

path indicated by the Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea held last year, were working diligently to accelerate economic construction together with defences so as to fortify the northern part of the country, the revolutionary base of the country, politically, economically, and militarily, and make full preparations for the coming great event—the country's reunification.

In view of the recent situation

in which Washington's aggression and war schemes have become more brazen, the country has devoted considerable efforts to strengthen defences while accelerating economic construction.

As the Party's military line calls for, the army has been trained into a cadre army and modernized, the entire people have been armed, and the whole land has been turned into a fortress. And now the Korean People's Army has grown into such an invincible revolutionary army that each of its fighters can cope with one hundred foes, and a powerful defence system is a reality throughout the country with the army as its mainstay.



On May 1 Premier Kim Il Sung received the foreign delegations staying in Korea and posed with them for a picture after the reception



Units of the Red Worker-Peasant Militia march in fine array

Holding rifle in one hand and hammer and sickle in the other, the entire working people together with the People's Army are fully ready to meet any adventure the enemy may choose to stage, while striving for production and construction.

The Red Worker-Peasant Militia units marched in battle array; their arms were machine-guns, automatic rifles, A.A. machine-guns, A.A. guns, field guns, mortars, etc. If the U.S. imperialists disregarding the lessons of the past choose to venture another aggression against our country, the final doom will be their only gain at the hands of the Korean People's Army and the entire people.

The mass rally and demonstrations also testified to the ardent desire of the Korean people for the country's reunification and their unbending fighting spirit to that end.

It is the supreme national task for the Korean people to drive out the U.S. imperialists from South Korea and bring about the country's reunification by the Korean people themselves tolerating no outside interference. We should hand over a unified, independent, and prosperous country to our coming generation.

The firm determination of the

Korean people to hold high the banner of anti-imperialist struggle and to strengthen the international solidarity was also fully shown.

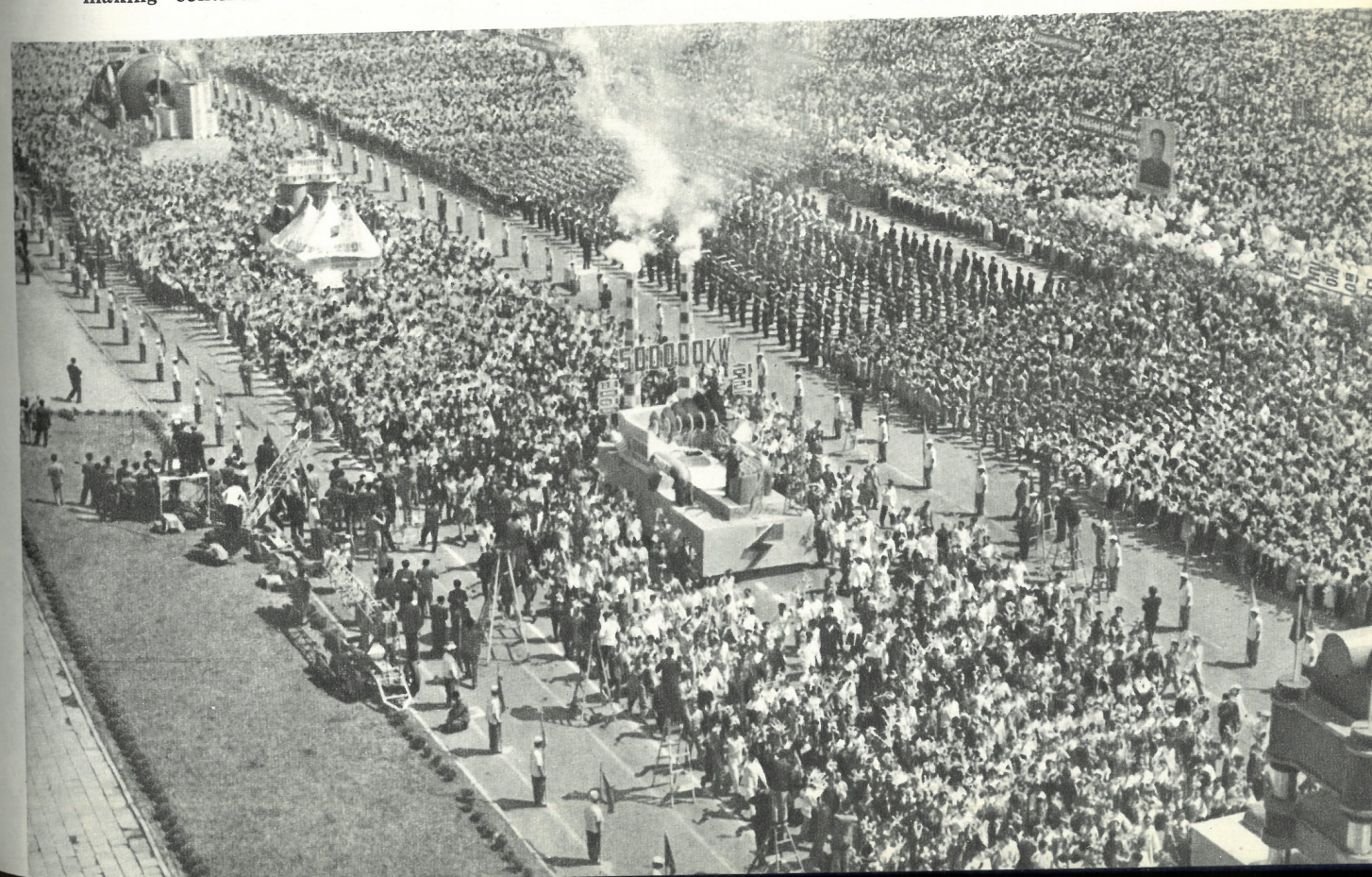
U.S. imperialism, the mainstay of aggression and war, the

international gendarme, and the bulwark of modern colonialism, is the common enemy and target No. 1 of the struggles of the world peoples. All the anti-imperialist forces of the world should act in concert and form

an international anti-imperialist united front to give active support to the just struggle of the Vietnamese people and frustrate U.S. aggression on Vietnam.

All the participants demonstrated their firm resolve to

Floats showing the achievements the working people of Korea scored in socialist construction, making continuous innovation and uninterrupted progress under the banner of self-reliance





A giant float depicting the people rallied firm around the Leader

fight to the end against U.S. imperialism shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnamese people, and resolutely supported the national liberation struggles of the Asian, African, and Latin American peoples who are fighting against imperialism and colonialism and for national independence. They also expres-

sed firm solidarity with the working classes and working people of the capitalist countries struggling against oppression and exploitation and for democratic rights and socialism.

The eighty delegations and delegates present at the celebrations gave enthusiastic cheers to the demonstrators.

The mass rally and demonstrations displayed the invincible might of the Korean people who are closely rallied round the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier Kim Il Sung and are marching towards socialism and communism under the leadership of the Party and the Leader.

The column of drummers

School girls march with rainbow fans unfurled



Korea and the United Arab Republic

A delegation of the National Assembly of the United Arab Republic was in Korea from May 4 to 9 at the invitation of Chairman Choi Won Taik of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The delegation was led by Anwar El Sadat, Chairman of the National Assembly of the U.A.R. and member of the Supreme Executive Committee of the Arab Socialist Union.

During their stay in Korea they were received by Premier Kim Il Sung, and they saw factories, co-operative farms, and cultural institutions in Pyongyang and in the Hamheung area. A grand mass meeting in their honour was held in Pyongyang; and wherever they went they were accorded a warm welcome.

The visit of the U.A.R. National Assembly delegation to our country greatly contributed to strengthening further the ties of friendship and solidarity between the peoples of the two countries.

Korea and the U.A.R. are far apart geographically, but the peoples of the two countries are firmly united by the deep fraternal

friendship.

The two peoples have gone through the same bitter past—a past of protracted colonial rule of the imperialists—and today they stand shoulder to shoulder on the common front against imperialism and colonialism, old and new.

The Korean people wholeheartedly welcomed the victory of the July 1952 revolution which opened up a new era in the history of the people of Egypt. And they extended full support to the U.A.R. people when they rose up to repulse the armed invasion committed by the British and French imperialists and Israeli Zionists with the backing of U.S. imperialism.

The industrious and talented U.A.R. people, who have a long history and brilliant cultural traditions, have achieved great successes in their endeavours for the independent development and prosperity of the country under the leadership of President Gamal Abdel Nasser and upholding the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism.

The U.S.-led imperialists are bringing a ceaseless economic pressure to bear upon the U.A.R. However, the people are marching ahead, baffling all imperialist schemes. They have already finished successfully the first five-year plan and are now in the midst of building up an independent economy.

The Korean people heartily rejoice over the shining success-



At the Pyongyang Grand Theatre on May 6 a rally was held in honour of the delegation of the National Assembly of the United Arab Republic currently visiting our country



ses of the U.A.R. people in their struggle for consolidating their national independence and for the prosperity of the country, and sincerely wish them greater successes in their work.

Feeling uneasy about the ever-increasing strength and influence of the U.A.R., American imperialism is working desperately to smother the hard-won freedom and independence of the U.A.R. people.

However, the U.A.R. Government and people are firmly determined to safeguard the honour and dignity of the nation, crushing all aggressive designs of imperialism; they are dealing resolute counter-blows to the imperialists to shatter all the heinous manoeuvres of the latter.

The U.A.R. Government and people are extending active support to the Asian and African peoples who are fighting for national independence and liberation. They are rendering active support to the Palestinian and South Yemeni peoples who are fighting for national-liberation struggle, and to the people of the Yemen Arab Republic in the struggle for defending their national independence.

Moreover, the U.A.R. Government and its people stand on the side of the heroic Vietnam people who are waging the just national-salvation struggle against the piratic U.S. aggression.

When the Korean war broke out in 1950, the U.A.R. people waging a resolute struggle against imperialism, the common enemy, supported the Korean people and frustrated the schemes of the reactionary monarchic regime to dispatch its troops to Korea, as bid by Washington. And now they express active support for, and solidarity with, the Korean people in their righteous struggle for making the U.S. army withdraw from South Korea and for the reunification of the country by the Koreans without out-

side interference. They highly appreciate the independent line of the D.P.R.K. and the successes achieved by the Korean people in their socialist construction.

Chairman Anwar El Sadat said in the banquet given in his honour: "At all times and in all circumstances the people of the United Arab Republic had full understanding and high appreciation of the just aspiration of the Korean people who are exploring their own way to the development, prosperity and reunification of the country according to their own will."

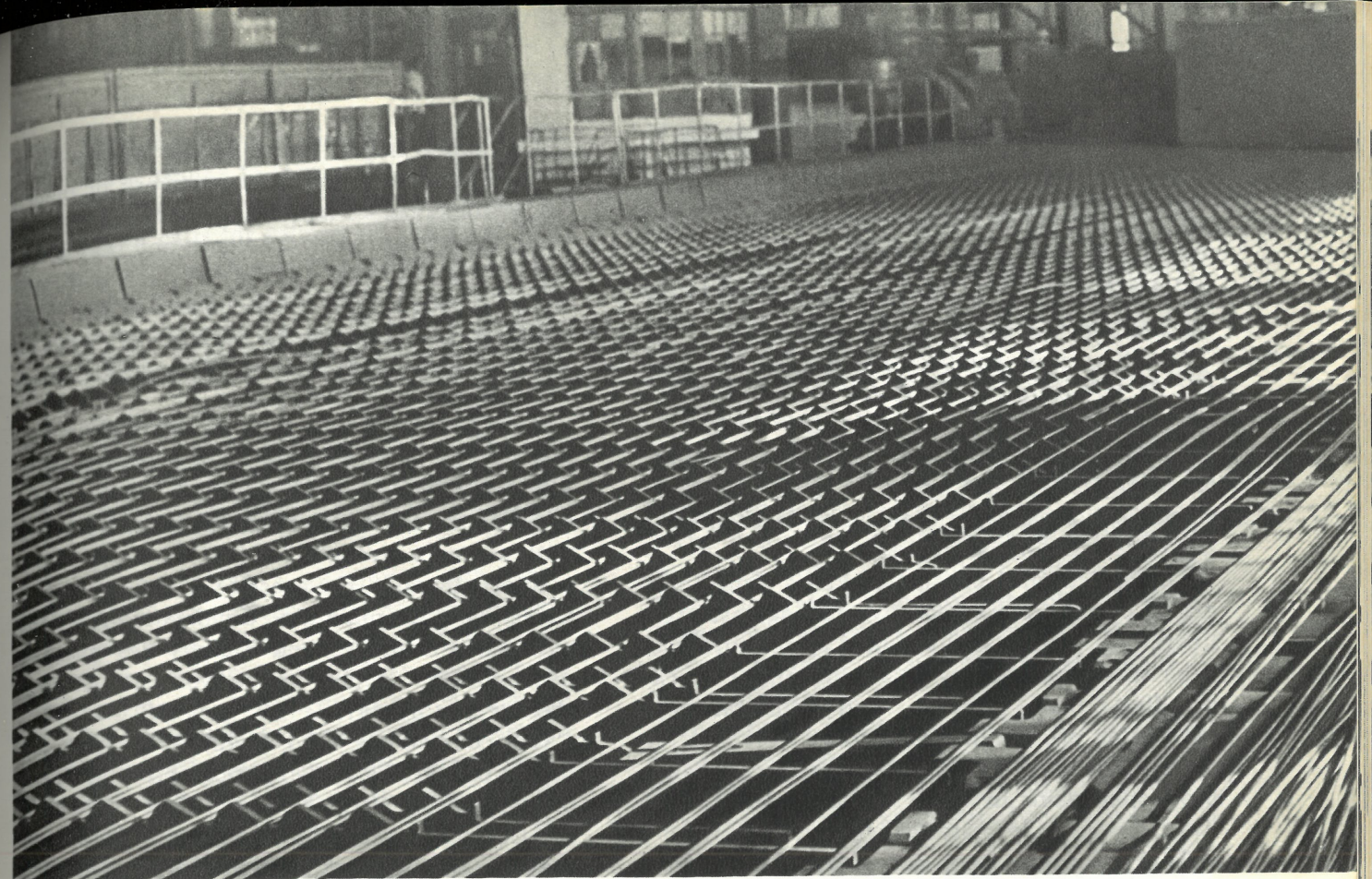
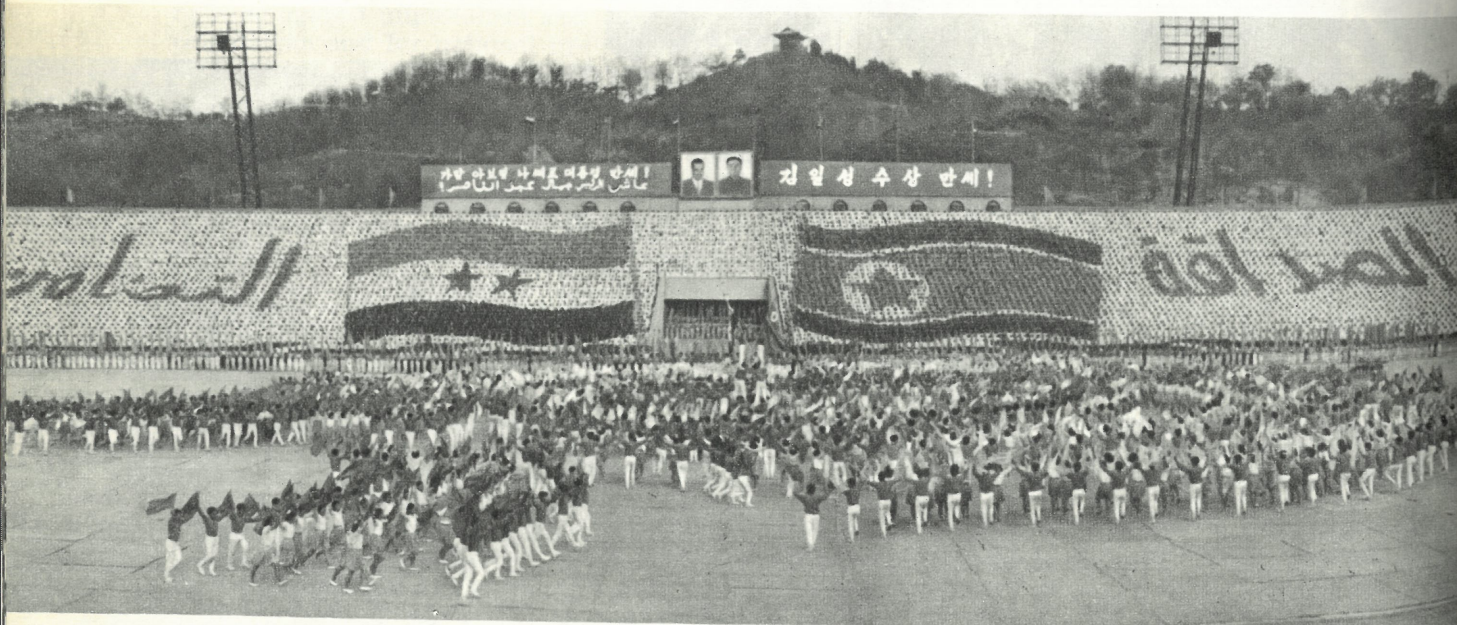
At the Pyongyang mass rally held in honour of the guests from the U.A.R. he said: "The people of the United Arab Republic and their leader and the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and their leader are linked with each other by friendship, fraternity, and admiration."

The peoples of the two countries, as Chairman Sadat said, are brothers and friends firmly united in the joint struggle against the common enemy.

When the imperialists launched the aggressive war against the United Arab Republic in 1956, the Korean people sided firmly with the U.A.R. people. And they will, as before, fully support the U.A.R. people who are waging a just struggle to defend national independence and bring about prosperity relying on the principle of self-reliance.

The ever-deepening militant friendship and solidarity between the two countries are not only for their own interests, but also for the common cause of the peoples of Asia and Africa who are fighting for national independence and social progress and against imperialism and colonialism.

At the Moranbong Stadium the mass callisthenics "The Era of Revolution" took place in honour of the delegation of the National Assembly of the United Arab Republic



A view of the new roughing shop of the Sungjin Steel Works

ON THE ROAD TO PROSPERITY

In the northern part of Korea there has been firmly established the socialist system where there is neither exploitation nor oppression—the advanced society which our people had longed for so much, and for which our revolutionary forerunners fought shedding their blood. Our people have built on their own a strong independent national economy; in 1965, our industrial production grew 15 times compared with the pre-liberation year 1944, and 12 times against 1949, the year before the Korean war.

Moreover, our country got rid of colonial lopsidedness that had existed in industry; and, in particular, it has built a solid foundation of heavy industry. In 1944, ore mining industry held 22.9 per cent of the gross value of heavy industrial output, metallurgical industry 19.4 per cent, and machine-building and metal-working industries 2.3 per cent. But in 1965 the figures stood at 4.5, 10.5, and 56.7 per cent respectively.

Today our machine-building industry turns out various kinds of machine-tools, trucks, tractors, heavy equipment and precision-machines, and produces all the machinery and installations for modern metallurgical and chemical plants.

A big headway has also been made in the metal-working and chemical industries. In the field of metal-working industry, the proportion of duplex processed goods has risen remarkably. The foundation of inorganic chemical industry has been consolidated and a rapid development in organic chemical industry made. Thus the country's heavy industry is progressing under a long-range programme, and it is being fed with raw materials produced domestically.

The firm foundation of light industry has been laid, too.

Thanks to the line of developing the large-scale plants together with the medium- and small-scale local factories, a notable advance-

ment has been made in light industry as well.

In 1965, compared with 1944, our textile industry grew 143 times and daily necessities industry 462 times.

Pre-liberation Korea had to import even small daily items, but now its production meets the needs of the people for daily items.

Great progress has been made in agriculture, too. In our countryside where agricultural cooperativization was completed, the technical, cultural and ideological revolutions are moving on energetically; and irrigation, mechanization, electrification, and the application of chemicals are registering much success.

The agricultural production keeps rising; the grain output increased twice as against pre-liberation years. A diversified agriculture has been what the country is aiming at; livestock breeding, fruit growing, and industrial crop cultivation are advancing rapidly.

As the country's socialist construction and production gains in speed, the national income has risen and the material and cultural standards of the people keep rising. In 1965, the national income increased 1.6 times as against 1960.

The state has constantly widened the scope of social amenities for the population to enable them to raise their real incomes and enjoy a yet more cultured life. Agricultural tax-in-kind was completely abolished in our countryside in 1966, and today the peasantry is free from all taxation.

A leaping development has been seen also in the fields of education, culture, and public health.

There are now in the country 98 universities and colleges along with some nine thousand other schools at all levels.

Today our country, where there was not even a single college before the liberation, is in possession of the firm foundation of education. In 1956 compulsory primary education system came into effect, which was followed by compulsory middle education in 1958; now the universal 9-year compulsory technical education system has been in force since this April. Inasmuch as all our schools are tuition free, our compulsory education is a practical one. That a quarter of the whole population of our country are studying at school illustrates this fact.

In the pre-liberation days the number of Korea's trained personnel was a small one, but now it swelled to cover hundreds of thousands,

The public health policy of the Government has seen the ever-expanding network of medical establishments. In 1964 the number of hospital beds increased 25 times, and that of all medical institutions 51 times over 1946. All working people bask in the benefit of free medical service. The average life span of our people has been lengthened by 20 years compared with the pre-liberation years.

Our Democratic People's Republic of Korea has been turned into an impregnable fortress to preserve the fruits of socialism. It has been the stand of the Government to defend the country with our own strength.

Internationally, the prestige of our country is rising. Now we maintain diplomatic relations with many countries, and friendly ties with the peace-loving people of the world are strengthening day by day.

Our compatriots, who residing abroad had been a people of a ruined nation and condemned to a miserable life, are now proud citizens of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and they are coming back to their thriving motherland.

All these achievements and successes would have been impossible but for the wise leadership of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea which is led by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

A view of Pyongyang city



The Party has always illumined the correct path for our people to take and steadily guided them to victory and glory, the path of independence which calls for solving all problems that one may face on his own at all costs, of adhering to the position of national identity and the principle of self-reliance in all fields, ideological, political, economic, cultural, and national defence.

The Workers' Party of Korea has consistently abode by the revolutionary mass line: it has always relied on the inexhaustible creative power of the popular masses and solved every question relying upon them.

Thanks to the wise leadership of our Party, our people have advanced unhesitatingly and unswervingly following the banner of the Party. It was under this guidance that our people were able to surmount all difficulties which emerged just after liberation, be victorious in the harsh war, successfully carry out the postwar rehabilitation, and build in the northern part of the country the socialist system under which all the people lead a good life.

Today, our people entirely trust the Party with their destiny and are united firmer than ever around the Central Committee of the Party.

The unbreakable unity between the Party and the people—this has been the very source

of our strength and the assets for still greater victories.

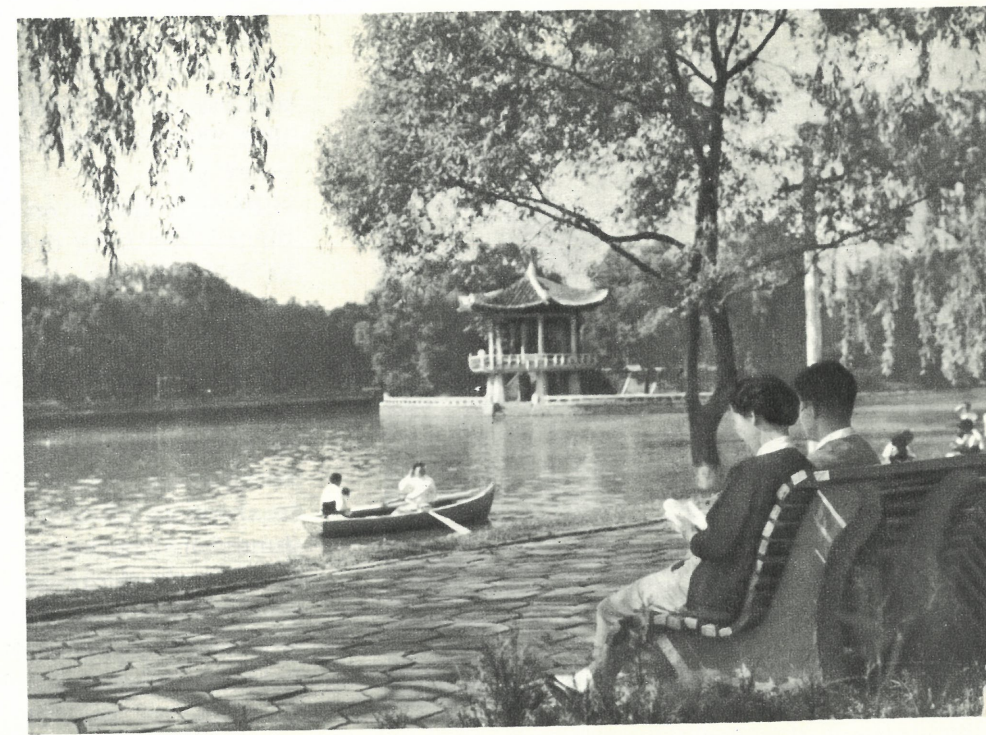
What we have built for the past twenty-two years since the country's liberation is not for the people in North Korea alone to enjoy a bountiful life. The cause of the country's reunification, the supreme task of our nation, still remains unmaterialized.

Our brothers and sisters in South Korea are compelled to lead a miserable life under the U.S. policy of colonial militarization and the country-selling policy of the U.S. stooges in South Korea.

The two diametrically different realities unfolding in North and South Korea in the past twenty-two years stand for the line of independence and the line of enslavement, and for the two poles-apart social systems that exist in North and South.

The Korean people are steadily moving ahead for uninterrupted innovation in response to the resolutions of the Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea so as to expedite the country's unification, to relieve our brothers and sisters in South Korea at the earliest possible time, not to hand over a divided country to our next generation, and to further consolidate and develop the socialist system established in the North, the reliable base of our revolution and the spring of our happiness.

On the Botong River pleasure ground



FOR A BIGGER YIELD

LI CHAN SOON

ON the east coast of Korea there is a vast plain, the Anbyun plain, where many far-reaching changes are taking place in the course of executing the tasks set forth in the "Theses on the Socialist Agrarian Question in Our Country."

Co-operative farms on the plain have done several nature-remaking projects and introduced more machines into farming. All the co-op farmers are energetically moving ahead along the path the Theses is indicating.

Weeding is in full swing in the fields.

I talked to a workteam leader, who showing me the weeding emulation chart said:

"Weeding is on the schedule. This year we will gather in 500 more kilograms of grain from every *jungbo* of our fields than last year. That will be our implementation of the Government's policy for combining economic construction with defence build-up and of the tasks put forth at the national conference of the agricultural

Discussing how to plough deeply



working people in January. I am sure we can do it as the revolutionary enthusiasm of our farmers is growing and our farm has firm material and technical foundations. Now the question is how we will make the most of material means at our disposal and how we apply scientific results and technology to farming."

As is the case with all the co-op farms in the country, at this co-op farm, too, thanks to the technical, cultural, and ideological revolutions farming methods have constantly improved, and the technical standard of farmers has risen. Now it is an urgent question for this farm to develop scientific farming.

When I dropped in at the farm office, many maps and charts on the wall arrested my attention. These maps and charts, I was told, were drawn by the co-op agronomists and experienced farmers. They say that they must know natural features and the soil to gather in bumper crops. The charts showed in detail geographical features and the soil composition. According to the chief-agronomist, soil here can be classified into three.

He showed me a bunch of cards on the soil of each plot, the card containing the detailed analysis of soil and the methods of amelioration. The farm makes the soil analysis every other year.

Basing itself on investigations it has conducted, the farm draws up plans for each plot as to fertilizing, ploughing, and sowing.

Until a few years back, in some plots rice grew slowly after the transplantation and the yield was low. (The transplantation is done between mid-May and early June.) According to many veteran farmers, this was inevitable because the rice on those plots usually began to shoot up after the summer solstice (around June 22). The agronomists carefully observed the growth of rice and surveyed the soil of the paddies in question, and they found out that iron was wanting in those plots and there was gas under the earth's surface. Now they brought in red clay and turned up several

times the paddies while weeding. Since then the paddies have become very productive.

During the past three years the farm has settled what would be the best way for applying fertilizer and when. Then more organic fertilizer was used; they also had prepared enough compost to spread 20 tons on every *jungbo* this year.

Rice being the main crop here, the brand of rice seeds was an important question.

The chief-agronomist pointing to the rice ears hanging on the wall said:

"This is the brand our farm has been using for the past two years."

For some years the farm experimented scores of new varieties until they developed a most suitable one.

I met in the field a farmer called Oh Kyung Bum, who said that the new brand grows so healthy. He invited me to have a look at the rice growing in the fields.

The co-op farmers are doing the scientific farming, he added, and they work collectively, and the Government is helping them.

In the past many paddies were washed away every summer, but after the completion of agricultural co-operation things changed. The villagers dugged canals and built river dykes. The Government has provided a big sum of funds for irrigation projects and pumping stations, and sent this farm tractors, trucks, farming machines, and a large volume of chemical fertilizer.

I looked around the farm. Everything indicated the superiority of collective farming and advanced farming methods, which the Government made it possible.

At present the farm has 14 agronomists and technicians, most of whom are assistant workteam leaders, and they hold technical courses for their teams.

I happened to see members of the fifth field team holding a class at a house. They were discussing what would be the best way of watering the rice plants. Assistant team leader Li Jong So, a technician, explained to his team members how to water at the different stages of the growth of rice. He said that in watering they should take into account peculiarities of each paddy-field. Now and then, he consulted the plot cards to compare what he was saying with last year's results. The cards said what crops were planted, what kinds of fertilizers



Co-op farmers doing researches on high-yielding rice brands

were applied, how the plots were watered, and what the harvests were.

Then he added: "Things may look good on paper, but not until we actually make them work they are not good. To do this, we have to consider peculiarities of each plot."

These cards showed how diligently the co-op farmers and agronomists were endeavouring to gather in bigger yields. Their efforts are not in vain—the harvest keeps increasing.

Last year the per-*jungbo* yield increased 1.3 times over 1959, and every household earned over 3 tons of grain and 1,000 won on an average.

The chief-agronomist said assuredly:

"We will reach our goal this year, too; everyone is working faithfully and we work in a scientific way."

NATIONALIZATION OF MAJOR INDUSTRIES AND INDEPENDENT NATIONAL INDUSTRY

It is very important for a nation freed from colonial rule to build up an independent national industry.

In this connection, Premier Kim Il Sung stated in 1947 on the need of building up an independent national economy as follows:

"To build a democratic, independent state, a nation should, without fail, establish a foundation of its own independent economy. And to lay the foundation, the national economy should be developed rapidly. Unless we lay the foundation of an independent economy, we cannot win independence, nor can we build up the country, nor survive."

It is of great importance to eliminate the economic foothold of the imperialists and their stooges, the comprador capitalists, in ensuring the independency of the national economy, and to nationalize their enterprises and make them work for the interests of the entire people.

It was in August 1946, one year after the country's liberation, that major industries were nationalized in the northern part of the country; factories, transport, communications, and banks that the Japanese imperialists and comprador capitalists had held were confiscated to make the property of the people. Altogether 1,034 such enterprises, or over 90 per cent of the whole industry of the country, were nationalized.

It is worth to note that the nationalization plan was only directed at the Japanese and comprador capitalists, and that irrespective of scale and branch all such properties were taken over without compensation.

The national capitalists were not listed in the law. This was not without reason; in pre-liberation Korea those national capitalists were oppressed by the Japanese monopolies; and, as a result, they were opposed to imperialism to

some extent. Consequently, to help advance those national capitalists who wanted to serve the people, and to make them take an active part in building up a new society: that was of great significance in rallying the revolutionary forces, consolidating the political and economic bastion of the people's power and developing the national economy.

Nationalization of major industries, a task in the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution, was carried out by the people's power led by the working class; and it made our working class the master of the country and actual owners of industry and helped them enhance their leading role and cement the worker-peasant alliance. Thus the revolution moved on vigorously. Thanks to the historic event, the economic foothold of the Japanese imperialists and comprador capitalists was forfeited, the political zeal of the working class and the rest of the population greatly soared, the democratic forces were firmly rallied based on the new social and economic foundation.

Moreover, with the nationalization of major industries, the artery of the national economy was in the hands of the state, creating the prerequisite for building an independent national economy.

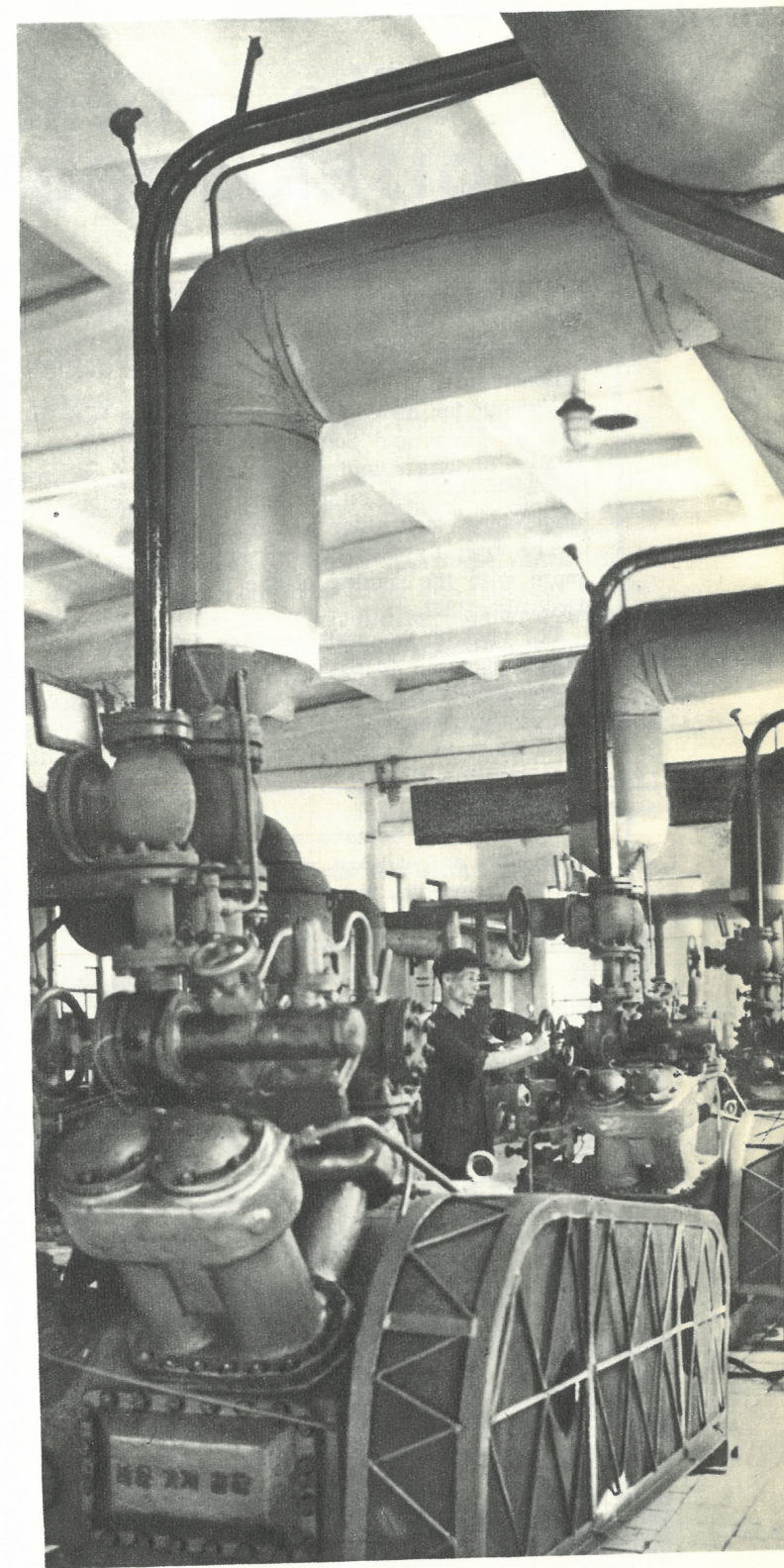
First of all, it gave the country raw material resources that would play a great role in building an independent national economy. Korea has abundant mineral resources and varied raw materials, but the wealth had been at the disposal of the Japanese colonialists before liberation. But the nationalization made all the resources of the country work for the advancement of the national industry.

Secondly, favourable social and economic conditions were created to equip industry with modern techniques; the Government would

draw up and carry on technical development plans and take all necessary steps for training technical personnel. At the same time all the workers, now the owners of the nationalized plants, could acquire modern skills; and they began to have a deep concern for the advance of techniques.

It must be added that the nationalization of major industries provided the country with a source for securing funds needed in building an independent industry. When Korea was a colony, the Japanese had shipped away every year millions of tons of iron ore, tens of thousands of tons of pig iron, steel, and various rare metal. Then they had boosted profit by employing cheap labour available in Korea. Now the country was in a position to use all these resources, once the prey of the Japanese colonialists, for its industrial build-up.

As the foundation for a national industry was laid through nationalization, the industrial build-up and greater productivity were the urgent questions posed before the country. It was indispensable for the nation to remove the one-sidedness and colonial character of the economy, the aftermath of Japanese rule, to erect an independent production structure, to build a sound industry relying upon domestic raw materials and resources, and to train an army of technical and administrative personnel, if it was to build an independent national industry. This was not an easy task. But this problem was gradually tackled under the one-year and two-year economic plans that started in 1947; and it was settled after the war (June 1950-July 1953). Between 1954 and 1960 the three and five-year plans were carried out; and the war-damaged economy was completely restored, the colonial lopsidedness that had been found in industry eliminated, and the founda-



A part of the vinyl chloride factory of the Bongoong Combined Chemical Plant

The Bongoong Chemical Plant was utterly destroyed by U.S. bombings during the Korean war

The Friendship Between Korea and Somalia

The Governments of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Somali Republic decided to establish diplomatic relations and exchange ambassadors.

Though far away from each other the two peoples of Korea and Somalia have been intimate friends of long standing who through the common struggle against imperialism and colonialism understand each other and support each other.

The friendly ties became strengthened all the more with the signing of the trade agreement in December 1962.

The visit of the parliamentary delegation of the Somali Republic to Korea in October 1966 and that of the delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Somalia in April this year contributed greatly to cementing further the friendship between the two countries.

The people of Somalia, a nation of time-honoured history and culture, waged protracted struggle to free themselves from the imperialists' yoke and won independence in the end. After the independence they are carrying on their struggle to efface the stains of colonial rule left behind and to fortify the national independence by building their own economy and culture under the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism.

The Somalian people are developing industry and agriculture on their own and with domestic material resources. Remarkable successes have been made in the fields of education, culture, and public health.

The people of Korea applaud the Somalian people for the successes they have made in their struggle for running their country by themselves.

Both Korea and Somalia are divided by the alien imperialists.

The Korean people are striving for the promotion of socialist construction in the northern part of

the country so as to fortify the revolutionary base; and they are fighting to drive the U.S. aggressors out of the southern part of the land. The Somalian people are endeavouring to consolidate the national independence, while they are waging a resolute struggle to liberate their brothers in "French Somalia."

Sheikh Mukhtar Mohamed Hussein, President of the Somali National Assembly, who visited our country last year, stated: "Far apart from each other as the two countries are, the two peoples have the same hopes and sufferings. They want to see liberation and progress for their peoples; they want to see unification of their countries; they want to build a better society for the prosperity of the people. All this is possible only when the country is free from foreign control of every description and from all outside interferences in their internal affairs."

The Korean people strongly condemn the imperialists' interference in the internal affairs of the Somali Republic and always send firm solidarity with the Somalian people who are resolutely fighting to materialize their country's unification and safeguard their sovereignty and honour.

With the establishment of diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level, the relations of friendship and co-operation between the peoples of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Somali Republic will broaden and develop further. This accords with the interests of the peoples of Asia and Africa in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism. It also constitutes a contribution to the strengthening of their unity.

In future, too, the Korean people will march on in firm unity with the Asian and African peoples including the Somalian people in the struggle against our common enemy—imperialism and colonialism.

tion for socialist industrialization was laid. Under the current Seven-Year Plan, the socialist industrialization is being pushed ahead more energetically and the technical revolution carried on in all branches of the national economy. As a result, today our economy is equipped technically far better than before.

Special mention must be made of machine-building industry. Korea had hardly any machine-building industry to speak of in the pre-

liberation year 1944; then machine-building and metal-working industries shared only 1.6 per cent in the gross value of industrial output. But now the machine-building industry has grown to supply almost all the machinery and equipment that every field of the national economy needs.

Thanks to its firm foundation, our national industry keeps growing giving more aid to agriculture and the whole economy.

South Korea's "Modernization"

WITH zest Pak Jung Hi speaks of "modernization" being "the supreme task and goal" of South Korea. According to him, it will free South Korea from its backwardness and give it an "independent economy." As is the case with everything else, Pak's "modernization" is the voice of his masters in Washington.

The "modernization theory" is a brainchild of the American scholars on the government payroll, which aims to check the mounting people's struggles for national liberation and to bolster the tottering colonialism, old and new, everywhere. It is a U.S. vehicle for aggression. The U.S. ruling circles hold that the urgent task for the Asian, African, and Latin American peoples is to "cast aside their centuries-old backwardness and poverty" and to "westernize" their countries.

In short, "modernization" is a synonym of "westernization"; it is their contention that the U.S. imperialists are "supporters" and "well-meaning helpers" to "backward countries" and "developing countries." All their words boil down to one thing—beautifying neo-colonialism.

Keeping one ear to his masters' voice, Pak Jung Hi is working hard to give a picture of backwardness and poverty that the masses suffer coming neither from U.S. occupation of South Korea nor from its enslavement policy but from the fact that South Korea has "failed to cast off the backwardness left over by the preceding societies." And he preaches that South Korea must co-operate with the aggressive imperialists.

ECONOMIC PLANS FOR BANKRUPTCY

Basing itself on the theory of "modernization by stages" dreamed up by an American economist named Rostow, Pak's regime has drawn up what is called a "long-term plan."

His plan foresees the "first five-year economic plan" ending in 1966, which would mark the first stage and lay the "foundations for an industrial state." Then by 1971, the second stage, "industrialization" will be completed. Then it goes on to say that the second stage will be followed by the "stage of leaps." In the latter part of the seventies South Korea will enter the highest stage of "modernization": Here the Seoul puppets are in ecstasy as a "welfare society" will come into being in South Korea.

Then what is the true state of affairs in South Korea today? The first stage of "modernization" is supposedly to be over and the "second stage" has been started.

The Seoul puppet authorities insisting on the need of "modern, liberal enterprise management" for "modernization" have opened the door for foreign monopolies to rush into South Korea. Then they transfer-

red "government-run enterprises" to the ownership of the comprador capitalists to facilitate the needs of alien capitalists, while abrogating customs so as to install free trade and flood South Korea with foreign goods.

The Seoul regime has gone the length of adopting a "law on foreign capital" to provide the foreign plutocrats with every privilege. The "law" stipulates that when foreigners start new business in South Korea they will be exempted altogether from taxation or get great deductions for the first eight years. Moreover, if such foreign firms suffer any loss they will be compensated by the Pak Jung Hi regime, while they can send money to their home countries without restriction. Thanks to the puppet regime's "modernization" the South Korean economy is going from bad to worse while foreign capital is pouring in. Today South Korea's economic artery is in the hands of foreign monopolies and over 80 per cent of industrial raw materials have to come from outside; Wall Street

Life is getting harder for South Koreans



holds 100 per cent of oil industry, 80 per cent of electricity, 100 per cent of military vehicle manufacturing, 70 per cent of transport, 40 per cent of cement industry, and 50 per cent of chemical industry.

In the meantime, Japanese monopolies started to re-invade South Korea with the conclusion of the "Seoul-Tokyo Treaty" (1965). They have grasped already 80 per cent of ship-building, 100 per cent of plastics industry, 30 per cent of textiles. They are making also inroads into power, building supplies, and chemical industries. The West German monopolies are concentrating on machine-building, communication appliances, and chemical industries.

As a result, South Korea's economy has been chained doubly and triply to foreign monopolies; in other words, it has lost completely all independency.

With the dominance of the foreign monopolies, medium and small plants, the mainstay of the national industry, fell one after another; the number of such plants in operation shrank from 56 per cent in 1961 (when the military coup was staged) to 40 per cent last year. During the same period, the volume of foreign capital in South Korea swelled 36-fold.

Like this, Pak's economic plan based on "modernization" has brought nothing but bankruptcy to South Korea's economy; its dependency on foreign imperialism is worse than ever and it is lining the pockets of the comprador capitalists.

A Seoul daily duly called Pak's policy one "handing out the country's wealth to others... symbolizing the nation's ruin."

Five years have passed since Pak Jung Hi started "modernizing the countryside" with the "agriculture first policy."

With a few "model villages" they set up, the Seoul regime has maintained that the life of the peasants was considerably "modernized" and that their living was improving.

But the very reverse is the case. Agricultural produce shrank, and the peasants' life is going from bad to worse. It can find expression in the growing number of poor peasants.

A South Korean newspaper wrote: "South Korea's countryside is a living hell; people live on grass and tree bark and suffer the medieval yokes."

This is the actual picture of South Korea where Pak Jung Hi is bragging about his "modernization of economy."

MILITARIZATION AND PINCHING POVERTY

Pak Jung Hi is pushing ahead with "modernization" at the expense of the people's living and he aims chiefly at putting spurs to the militarization of economy to serve U.S. war policy.

A South Korean publication commented on Pak's "first five-year plan." "It was a plan for laying the foundation of a munitions industry for war-time production and putting the economy on the war footing." The plan, Pak Jung Hi insisted, would lay the foundation for a "welfare society." But so far only a few have been completed, even all these are for war one way or the other.

The Seoul puppet regime uses most of the foreign loans for those domains which serve war directly or

indirectly and has spent 80 per cent of the U.S. "aid" for military purposes. The Pak Jung Hi regime appropriates more money for war purposes; this year's war expenditure will be 3 times over 1961.

More than 70 per cent of the total expenditure for the year will go for military expenses and the fascist terrorist rule.

The "modernization" which is aimed at militarizing economy inevitably accompanies worse plunder of the population. The Pak Jung Hi clique decided this year to increase the volume of taxes by 42,400,000,000 won over last year; this means each family's tax load will be 22,400 won. To earn 22,400 won an average factory or office worker has to work four and half months. The U.S. imperialists and puppet regime expropriated over 100,000 *jungbo* of land to facilitate U.S. war needs; then every year a large volume of rice and other agricultural produce are taken away for the Yankee troops and the South Korean puppet army.

All this forces the masses to sink deeper into poverty. Even according to manipulated figures of the Seoul authorities, taking 1960 as 100, the real wages of the South Korean workers was 42 in 1964 and the figure keeps shrinking. The debt of the peasants boosted 5.4 times in three years from 1962 and by the end of 1965 each farm family had a debt of 21,400 won.

"LEGALIZATION" OF THE MILITARY FASCIST RULE

Pak's "modernization" is an excuse to legalize his military fascist rule, too.

A South Korean peasant family who have lost their farmland are trying to sustain themselves in the mountain



For "modernization," the Pak Jung Hi clique hold that there must be a "leading force" to chart its course, and they will be the pilot. Accordingly, the "leading force" should be strengthened. With such a logic, they have intensified their suppressive measures against all anti-government forces.

Since the Washington-engineered coup on May 16, 1961, the Pak Jung Hi regime has issued a host of evil laws including the "act on honest politics," "regulations on political parties," "law on special persecution." All these moves were designed to oppress the people, block the advance of the reformists, and suppress even some conservative circles that do not see things eye to eye with Pak Jung Hi.

The "anti-communist law" is their most favourite instrument of fascist, terrorist rule. To them, the slogan "anti-communism" is the "cure-all" to "legalize" their criminal acts—to tyrannize over the people, to dispose all political opponents, to start another fratricidal war, to facilitate the Japanese militarists for reinvading South Korea, to dispatch more young people to South Vietnam to provide a bullet-shield for the American aggressors.

To perpetrate further his traitorous deeds and oppression of the people, Pak Jung Hi is working diligently to reinforce his ruling machinery and deprive the people of the rudimentary democratic rights. The police, prisons and other oppressive organs have been doubled as against the period of Syngman Rhee's rule.

But to Washington Pak Jung Hi is the "strong man" of South Korea and the U.S. government eggs him on to step up his rule of terror.

To maintain their colonial rule through the puppets is the set practice of the U.S. aggressors. Now Washington is working like mad to keep through the military fascist rule its tottering colonial machinery in face of the ever-intensifying anti-imperialist struggle of the South Korean people.

Even a politician of an opposition conservative party, said:

"The modernization policy of the Democratic Republic government (led by Pak Jung Hi) has brought about untold tyranny—the whole nation is seized with terror, discord, and uneasiness. The banner of modernization is held aloft, but only 24 per cent of the urban people enjoy electric light while most of the nation being in the depth of poverty. The realities prove how wrong and false the modernization policy of the present regime has been."

Pak's "modernization" is also a way to hinder the country's unification. In a word, with the never-to-be-realized slogan, Pak Jung Hi is scheming to keep Korea divided forever and maintain South Korea as America's colony and military base and to bleed the people white more.

All this shows that the U.S.-initiated "modernization" is a smokescreen to cover the traitorous acts of Pak Jung Hi and his company—to invite the foreign forces to South Korea and send the nation down the river.



The author

A Visit to Panmunjom

MOTOJI AOKI

A gentle river skirted a not-so-high hill and it seemed the water was rather shallow. There was a stone bridge across the river and the wide road led to Kaesong.

A little distance off the bridge, on the southern bank, an earth bank, stood poles painted in yellow—this is the well-known "Military Demarcation Line" in Korea. Recently I saw it for the first time.

The northern bank of the stream was well reinforced with rocks; and fields were cultivated to the very edge of the stream. I could see farmers working here and there in the paddy fields where tall rice plants were dancing in the wind.

The south side was a boundless wilderness—dykes were crumbling; tall weeds, as high as a man's height, ran riot; there were no signs of life.

*

The meeting hall of the Armistice Commission was located in the centre of six buildings coloured in blue and green; four blue ones were built by the Korean side, two green ones by the Americans.

There was a long table in the middle of the hall, on which were resting two microphones; cords extending from them made the boundary line dividing Korea into two parts—north and south.

"Take any seats you like, please," said our guide. But none of us (there were eight of us) sat on the American side; no one was in the mood to do that even for a joke.

In the hall, where the Armistice Agreement was signed on July 27, 1953, Major Kim told us about increasing violations of the agreement by the American side, particularly lately. I felt that more U.S. violations meant not only the sharpening of tension in Korea but also the bankruptcy of U.S. policy in Vietnam and that Panmunjom is an epitome of the two

opposite forces—war and peace.

American soldiers tailed us everywhere we went. Now and then they blew their top off. For what? God knows! Then they were awfully anxious with their cameras to get a picture of us.

Indeed the Korean People's Army men made a good comparison with the Americans. Whenever and wherever we needed help, two or three Korean soldiers were there to look after us. They were kind and alert but serious.

*

On a table in the hall, where the Armistice was signed, stood a flag of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; on the other table was a U.N. flag. The U.N. thing made me tell myself. This is very deceiving. "The Stars and Stripes," the symbol of aggression, should have been here. Everything is American—American soldiers and American jeeps. Then why the U.N. flag?

Under the shade of the U.N. flag, they set up investigation groups and adopted resolutions in their attempt to keep the situation as it is, while waiting for another chance to invade the north. Where could we find a better place than here to see the "gendarme of world imperialism" in all its nakedness?

All those who support the U.N. and regard its activities righteous and believe that world peace can be safeguarded through it should visit Panmunjom and see for themselves how really things stand.

On a hill not far from the meeting hall was an observation tower, from where one can command a fine view of north and south. We looked around and could see how things differed between north and south. When we left the place a staff member of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign

An American M.P. on the military demarcation line



Countries said that in late autumn when all reeds and weeds wither the differences between the two sides can be seen clearer. But I felt it does not have to be late autumn; the differences are there in all seasons for one to see.

Major Kim said laughing: "When South Korean tourists come here they habitually ask which side the village over there belongs to. I suppose they simply cannot make out why the place looks so different from theirs. But, do you know what the Americans tell them? They tell them it is in South Korea! So we fly our flag there; they cannot tell lies any more."

Soon after, a sightseeing group from the south arrived. Like a flock of sheep watched by dogs, they were led into the compound by American MPs. For a time they looked into the meeting hall through the windows before disappearing by twos and threes along the narrow path behind the building.

The American imperialists themselves admitted that they suffered the first bitter defeat in Korea in America's history of aggression of over a century. And we were told about thousands of concrete facts that the U.S. had committed in this land. But the worst part of it is that no one can be sure that these dangerous things would not repeat themselves even today or tomorrow.

Washington is now bringing in various up-to-date weapons including atomic guns to prepare for another war in Korea. They welded together Japanese imperialism and the Pak Jung Hi clique of South Korea so as to prolong the latter's life and to deprive the Koreans in Japan of all rights. Washington has revived Japanese militarism to have it draw up aggressive plans, such as, "Operation Three Arrows," "Operation Flying Dragon," etc.

There is only one enemy for the world.

As far as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is concerned, its people are exerting every effort for the successful socialist construction under the Seven-Year Plan and for liberation of the south and for the peaceful unification of the country by the Koreans without foreign interference.

We could feel their endeavours and enthusiasm everywhere.

At no time did the world demand unity of the peace forces as the present time.

I want to conclude this article with words a Korean soldier gave me:

"I wish you good health. Come to see us again when our country is unified."

(The author was a member of the mission of the Japanese International Trade Association to Korea.)

At Moranbong Youth Park on a holiday

Korean painting

"STEEL WORKERS" (1966) by Choi Gye Keun





A New Feature Film

"A Girl of Mt. Keumgang"

Mt. Keumgang is the most celebrated mountain of the nation for its beautiful scenery.

Soon Ih, the heroine of the film "A Girl of Mt. Keumgang" lives here. She is a member of the stockbreeders team of a co-op farm.

As the scene opens, the girl watching over her flock of sheep on the mountainside, sings the "Song of Spring in Mt. Keumgang." Orioles are singing, too. Then there is heard a girls' chorus in answer to her; the song resounds through the quiet valley and travels far out to the sea.

On the sea some fishing boats are headed for the home port; on the mast of every boat are flying the flags of big catch. A young fisherman is seen standing on the deck of a boat and singing the "Song of Fishers" as if he were responding to the girls' song. The quiet melody of the girls' song and the cheerful boatman's song with its national rhythms sing of the hearts of the pair of two lovers, Soon Ih and Chang Soo, the young man.

The scene shifts. On the screen girls are singing and dancing happily. A middle-aged man appears and the music stops. Soon the girls learn that the stranger is a composer, his name is Hwang Suk Pa, who has come to write a music and dance epic "A Girl of Mt. Keumgang." At the request of the composer, the girls sing again the song, a favorite of the area. He is moved by the beautiful melody that reflects the real life. When he asks them who is the best singer, they all point to Soon Ih.

Hwang Suk Pa starts to write the epic while collecting many folk songs. One day Hwang asks Soon Ih to take him to her mother who has taught her to sing.

When she tells her mother that the composer wants to meet her, the mother is hesitant. She takes out her Kayageum, a Korean stringed instrument. There is a scar on the body of the instrument. As she touches the scar, her thoughts go back to the distant past.

The film shows Soon Ih's parents in their younger days. They would not yield to Japanese rule, keeping their national conscience and fidelity and fighting for freedom and liberation of the country. Theirs was a harsh life.

One day the husband picks out a few books from the bookshelf to sell. They have to have money to get some grain. He hands them to his wife but she is reluctant. He says to her: "It's alright. To sell books is not shameful but to sell one's conscience is shameful. Go and get some food..." The wife bursts into tears. Now he begins to play on the flute a tune of "My Sweet Native Land" hoping to console her and lighten his heavy heart. Presently her fingers start to pluck that tune on the Kayageum. A duet of flute and Kayageum by the young couple goes on, eventually she starts to sing to the tune.

Suddenly a gang of Japanese policemen knock at the front gate; they have come to arrest Hwang who would not submit to them. But he succeeds in fleeing before the police break into the house. Failing to find Hwang Suk Pa, a police recovers his sword and slashes the strings on the Kayageum to vent his anger. Now the instrument is bare and a deep scar is made on the body.

Driven away by the police, the wife comes to Mt. Keumgang where she settles down. Before long she gives birth to a girl, Soon Ih.

In the meantime, Soon Ih's father locates the partisan units and joins them to fight Japanese troops. After liberation of the country he devotes himself to national arts. But his wife and daughter know nothing about him; they are leading a good life at a co-op farm.

The visiting composer covers many parts of the mountain collecting folk tunes; but Soon Ih has no way of knowing that he is her father. In the meantime something unavoidable happened, and he leaves the village.

Soon Ih is happy when the chairman of the co-op farm tells her that the music circle of her co-op farm, she is a member, is to compete in the provincial art contest which is to be held at the provincial seat. Now the whole farm is greatly excited.

Soon Ih and Chang Soo together with other members of the circle receive a warm welcome from the artists of the provincial theatre. They are preparing for the contest to be held in the capital.

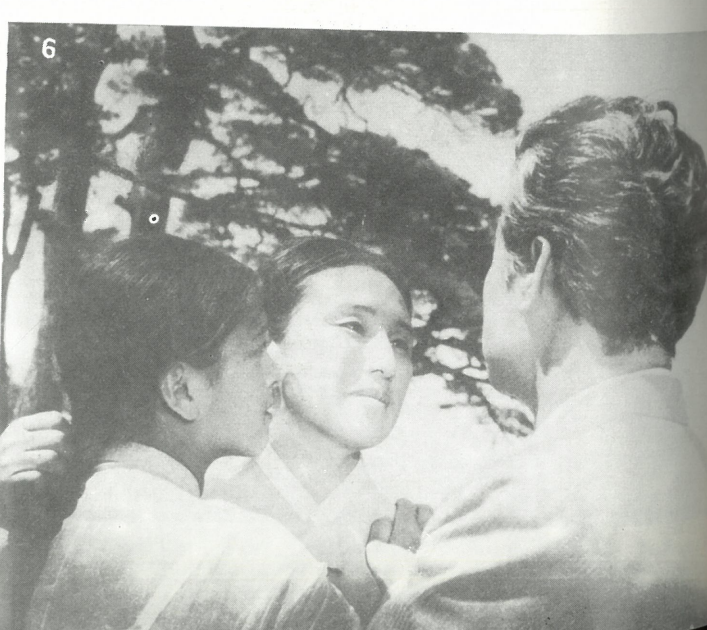
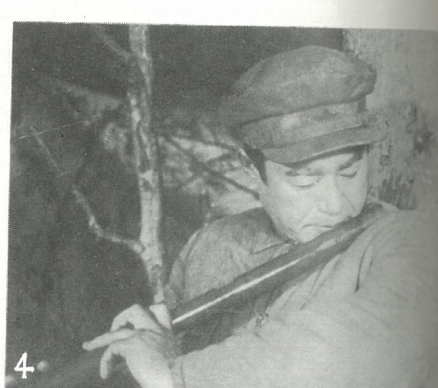
At first, the title role of the music and dance epic "A Girl of Mt. Keumgang" was to be played by a professional singer. The producer, however, unsatisfied with her performance nominates Soon Ih for the role, because the producer wants to have the local atmosphere and the wholesome and joyous spiritual world of the girl projected. Everyone helps her. She works hard, too.

Now the music and dance epic "A Girl of Mt. Keumgang" is being performed at the Grand Theatre in Pyongyang on the birthday of the country. Soon Ih's performance brings down the house, now the audience wants an encore. In the end she sings the song "My Sweet Native Land." This is the song that her father had taught her mother before she was born, she adds. Hwang Suk Pa deeply stirred runs to the backstage to see the girl. He is shown a picture of her mother who taught her singing. Now he is sure it is a picture of his wife and Soon Ih is their girl. Thus the song brings the separated family to a happy reunion.

The film "A Girl of Mt. Keumgang" in technicolor is a 1966 production of the Korean Feature Film Studio.

In this film many new faces appear, too.

1. Her lovely voice flows out
2. "Who's the best singer?" asks the composer
3. The Japanese police breaks the strings of the Kayageum with a sword
4. Hwang Suk Pa is in the unit of guerillas to fight the Japanese
5. Soon Ih is showing her mother's picture to the composer
6. A happy reunion of the family



The Nguyen Van Troi Workteam

It was in 1964. A young fighter of South Vietnam, Nguyen Van Troi, gave his life in the national-salvation struggle against the American aggressors. The news of his heroic fight and death greatly stirred the entire youth of Korea.

The Korean people and youths, who have been educated in socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism, and who have regarded the struggle of the Vietnamese people as their own, are filled with burning hatred against the U.S. imperialists, and they are firmly resolved to revenge him upon the enemy. They think more than ever about giving more aid to the fighting Vietnamese people.

At factories and enterprises and on co-op farms in our country many workteams have listed Nguyen Van Troi as an honorary member of their respective teams and do extra work to make up his share. Some workteams have other heroic fight-

ers of South Vietnam as their members, too.

Such listings were made at a time when there was a movement for the workers and co-op farmers of our country to have those patriotic youths of South Korea who gave their lives for the anti-American, national-salvation struggle, and those who died a heroic death in the Korean war fought against U.S. imperialism. All workteams that have honorary members do extra work for their shares.

One day the members of the Chullima Workteam led by An Keum Soon at the Pyongyang Textile Mill gathered together.

They read "Let's Live As He Did," written by Nguyen Van Troi's wife about his life and activities, and everyone expressed how she felt.

Unanimously they condemned the U.S. imperialists who started the aggressive war in Korea, who still occupy the southern part of our land,

and who have turned all cities and villages of Vietnam into a sea of fire killing innocent people, children included.

All expressed their firm determination to aid materially and spiritually the heroic Vietnamese people who are fighting against the U.S. aggressors, the common enemy of the peoples of Korea and Vietnam.

That day they decided to list Nguyen Van Troi as an honorary member of their workteam and work extra for his share. They agreed to name ten weaving machines "revenge Van Troi" machines.

Since then they have worked with a feeling of fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnamese people against the U.S. aggressors at the



Workteam members writing a letter to the weavers of the Nam Dinh Textile Mill in Hanoi

The ring sent from Vietnam is being given to the girl weaver who made the greatest success in production



front. They put on every machine a portrait of Nguyen Van Troi and the slogan: "Let's actively support the fighting Vietnamese people by fulfilling the assignment for Nguyen Van Troi daily, monthly, and quarterly!"

They carried out their determination studying the changing situation of South Vietnam and activities of Nguyen Van Troi and other Vietnamese patriots.

In order to turn out more fabrics, the members of this Chullima workteam made efforts to improve their skills and handle their machines with better care.

Koo Soon Ja, a girl weaver, introduced an advanced work method to overfulfil her daily quotas by 20 per cent.

Ri Chang Sam, a repairman of the workteam, was the first in the factory to sign up for volunteers to go to Vietnam to fight the American imperialists. He looks after all the machines with the greatest care, raising their utility rate. He is al-

ways ready to go and fight in Vietnam, whenever he is needed.

Thus the members of the An Keum Soon Chullima workteam successfully surpassed their assignments for both 1965 and 1966.

As the Vietnamese people's struggle grew in intensity in the light of the ever-worsening war escalation, the members of this workteam decided to give yet more active support to Vietnam.

At the close of 1966 when they reviewed the year, they set the quotas for the workteam yet higher for the coming year.

Today, they are working diligently with a feeling of supporting the Vietnamese people. Their slogan in the shop reads: "Let's turn out more fabrics in order to avenge Nguyen Van Troi!"

More than 90 per cent of the products turned out by the "revenge" machines are of the first-grade.

Sometime ago, this workteam received a dagger and a ring made

with the wreck of a Yankee plane downed by the weavers of the Nam Dinh Textile Mill in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. Their hearts were filled with burning hatred at the American aggressors.

They decided that the weaver who registers the highest record in production for the month should be the keeper of the ring during the month.

Now the honour has been given to Koo Soon Ja, a multi-loom operator.

This is what the workteam leader An Keum Soon said: "The Vietnam front is our front and the struggle of the Vietnamese people is our struggle. We, as the entire Korean people will, will do everything to aid the Vietnamese people at all costs. The Vietnamese people are sure to win victory and U.S. imperialism will certainly sustain defeat. The U.S. imperialists must get out of South Vietnam at once, taking all their military personnel and lethal weapons with them."

More New Factories

Uninterrupted innovation is being made in production and construction by all the workers of our country; they are working devotedly upholding the decisions of the Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea held in October 1966 which laid down the principle of upbuilding defences in parallel with economic construction.

This year, many new factories and workshops have appeared. The latest were the sheeting shop of the non-ferrous metal rolling factory at the Nampo Smelter, the second fertilizer workshop at the Soonchun Nitro-lime Fertilizer Factory, and the Chungsoo Nitro-lime Fertilizer Factory.

The second fertilizer workshop at the Soonchun Fertilizer Factory was finished in a little over one year, with many big buildings and equipment.

To be sure, many difficulties and handicaps had to be overcome in the course of construction, but all the workers and technicians worked in a body upholding the country's policy which calls for more fertilizers to the farmers. They succeeded in registering a great feat; they cleared up one obstacle after another by close co-operation and



The newly commissioned sheeting shop of the non-ferrous metal rolling mill at the Nampo Smelter is turning out rolling goods

boldly adopting new technical devices.

All these factories put into commission of late have been planned and constructed by the Korean workers with machines and installations produced in our country.

Like this, our workers are unfolding an energetic struggle to

fully implement the line of the Workers' Party of Korea of carrying on economic construction in parallel with defence upbuilding so as to more firmly fortify the material and technical foundations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the revolutionary base for whole Korea.

WHO IS TO BLAME

LIFE is hard for the absolute majority of the South Korean people—workers, peasants, petty bourgeois, and others.

The following items will tell of their plights.

WAGES KEPT IN ARREARS

Numbers of workers in South Korea are not paid in time.

Hundreds of workers employed at a construction site of a public works in the Dongdaiwon District, Seoul, have not seen a penny of money they earned for three months—more than 1,000,000 won. Over 400 employees working for a contracting company in the service of U.S. troops in Boopyung, Kyunggi Province, are yet to get their pay, 3,250,000 won all told.

As of September 28 last year, on 36 construction sites in South Korea alone, 3,213 workers were unpaid, no less than 111,640,000 won.

According to data made public by the South Korean

Condemned houses in Seoul



authorities, as of the end of 1966, a worker's family of five needed 17,036 won to live a month. In the field of manufacturing industry, however, the workers get some 7,300 won a month on the average; and the dockers no more than 3,000 won. Then there are the soaring prices one has to reckon with. At the beginning of this year, there was another price hike in Seoul, this time 30 per cent on an average.

Under such situation, the workers find it hard to keep the pot boiling. Most of them, therefore, cash the pay slips from the usurers who are in league with the employers and give only 50-80 per cent of the money due to them.

Unspeakably miserable is the life of over 7,000,000 unemployed and semi-unemployed who swarm the streets of South Korea.

NO FOOD GRAIN AND MANY LEAVING FARMS

In South Korea there are great numbers of peasants who are on the brink of starvation.

A South Korean paper reported that this spring in South Korea's rural villages over 338,000 families had no food grain. In one sub-county in Wolsung County, North Kyungsang Province, 50 per cent of the total number of the peasant households ran out of provisions in late March this year; in Kangwon Province (South Korea) more than 18,900 peasant households had nothing to eat.

Things are little different on the Honam plain, known as the granary of South Korea. A village reported more than 2,300 foodless peasants.

Most of these peasants had to borrow paying a high rate of interest to survive; many quit their farms altogether to make their way to the cities to try their luck.

Even according to an official release of the puppet "Ministry of Health and Social Affairs" of South Korea, in the urban areas alone there were some 2,798,900 who had no way of feeding themselves at the end of February this year. Many of them were those who came up to the cities from the country.

A chronic famine is sweeping the South Korean countryside and more farmers are leaving.

At present, it is estimated that 90 per cent of all the farm households in South Korea cannot sustain themselves because of taxes to the Seoul regime, rent to the landlords, and debts to the usurers.

"AMERICAN HOTELS"

Recently a South Korean paper wrote:

"...Poles as big as one's forearms stand in four corners; broken boards, oil-paper and rusted tin make the walls and roofs; torn cement bags or American comics book are the wall papers; then stones, big and small, are resting on the roof lest the whole thing flies away in the wind. The small hills, a little way off the main streets of Seoul, are colonies of such make-shift houses; the places are so crowded it is suffocating."

At present, 31,400 families live in these houses or tents in Seoul, according to the South Korean paper.

In Seoul, it is officially reported, there are now

Untouchable Crimes

THE so-called South Korea-U.S. Status-of-Forces Agreement (SOFA) governing the status of American military personnel stationed in South Korea went into effect on February 9.

According to an official release of the Seoul regime, the agreement would prevent U.S. soldiers from committing crimes, and when such criminal cases occur they can be handled on the "principle of equality."

The agreement, however, is far from checking the Yankee's outrages; on the contrary, the crime wave is on the ascendance and becoming more knavish.

On February 16, a U.S. unit fired mortar shells at a village in Ryongchun County, Kyunggi Province, killing eight inhabitants and heavily wounding two.

A few hours later on the same day, a sergeant named Wilson Kennett beat up a Korean passerby for no reason. In the night of February 22, an American pfc named Charles of the 335th Ordinance battalion, the 8th Army, brandishing a dagger robbed a Korean woman of her money. Then a Yankee soldier boy Loret of a supply company of the U.S. Air Force broke into a house in Kunsan, North Chulla Province, and attempted to violate the mistress of the house, Kim Soo Jung. When she resisted, the rascal played havoc with the house before fleeing.

These are only a few of the numerous cases that are taking place in South Korea.

The Seoul authorities, however, have no jurisdiction over these offences committed by the American personnel in South Korea, so the best they can do is to pretend to know nothing of these cases.

Here is another example. On March 17, an American soldier named Cokes of the 6314 Supply Company, U.S. Air Force, violated a Korean woman and then put the house on fire. But the U.S. military authorities ordered him to go back to America. The South Korean regime could not even question him. So much so, Cokes stated that if the South Korean regime wanted to question him, they had to get a permission from the commander of the U.N. Forces.

To alleviate the public anger, Pak Jung Hi pretended to do something against these criminal offences but only to whitewash them.

These facts show that SOFA is nothing but a scheme to emasculate the anti-U.S. feelings of the people. It is a vehicle for legalizing U.S. occupation of South Korea and its colonial rule.

Jurisdiction over crimes committed by the U.S. military personnel, the most important clause of the agreement, fully discloses the fraudulent nature of the whole thing.

According to the clause, it is beyond the competence of the Seoul authorities to deal with any crimes committed by the Americans "in the course of performing one's duties;" only over the criminal offences committed by the American "not on

duty," Seoul retains the right to conduct the primary right of jurisdiction. But only the American authorities are empowered to define if any offence committed is of "on duty" or "off duty." Moreover, if the U.S. side so requests, the Seoul regime must yield willingly the primary right even if the case in question is an "off duty" one. Then the Seoul regime loses automatically its small rights after a lapse of fifteen days from the time of crime.

Besides, SOFA reconfirms the extraterritoriality of the Americans which they have exercised for many years.

It is impossible to expect that the agreement signed between the U.S. imperialists and their stooges would serve to check criminal cases committed by the American personnel. Brutalities and crimes of the American soldiers in South Korea are not of individuals; they come out of the aggressive nature of the U.S. army. Rulers of the Pentagon have infused into the minds of U.S. troops racism, pillage, and massacre. As a result, U.S. soldiers regard it as their privilege to enslave and humiliate other nations while their barbarism and arbitrariness is sort of bravery. This explains savagery of American GIs not only in South Korea but in Japan, Thailand, Taiwan, West Germany, and all other countries where the U.S. forces are stationed.

The only way to root out all these crimes is to drive out Yankee aggressors from every place and every country where they set foot on.

644,000 families and 366,000 houses, of which more than 154,000 are condemned houses. These condemned houses are no better than the make-shift houses or tents. And the citizens of Seoul call these "houses" "American hotels," for these are the products of U.S. occupation of South Korea.

The past twenty-two years taught the South Korean people what is the root of their misery.

The misery of the South Korean workers who have

no rights, the hunger-stricken rural areas, poverty of the urban inhabitants—all this comes from the U.S. policies of militarization and colonial plunder and from the traitorous Pak Jung Hi clique.

The South Korean people would not allow themselves to be trampled underfoot by the Yankee aggressors forever. They are stubbornly fighting against U.S. colonial rule and the puppet clique, for their right to life, democracy, and for the country's reunification with no outside interference.

I Escaped from South Vietnam (2)

AN HAK SOO

BROKEN MYTH

It is a U.S. jargon that "America does better in everything." Faithfully echoing his master's voice, Pak Jung Hi with his followers is working overtime to hammer "U.S. invincibility" into the heads of the South Korean people.

I must confess. What I saw in South Vietnam was simply beyond me. How could it be possible for the "Vietcong" so poorly equipped to chop up utterly the American troops equipped with all modern war hardware—airplanes, tanks, armoured cars, and heavy guns?

In Da Nang a number of Yanks perished in one night. U.S. billets and the U.S. embassy in Saigon were blown up. American troops, so fear-stricken after a battle, mistook the rustlings of trees for the "Vietcong" and fired at each other all through the night! Ten husky U.S. soldiers were taken prisoner by a little young girl guerilla. There are more—almost incredible—stories of this nature.

When I heard these stories I thought more than once that what a hoax this U.S. invincibility was. So shocking were the repeated attacks of the South Vietnam Liberation Army and guerillas. The Yankees travel by air even when they go to a next village, some four kilometres away! They simply do not want to see themselves on the highways.

I happened to witness how the "Vietcong" were hitting the Yankees. Once I stayed overnight in a town on my way to Saigon from Vung Tau. My quarter was next to a U.S. billet. I suppose it was about one o'clock. In the deep of night suddenly ear-deafening explosions broke the silence; the billet was showered with mortar shells; and the Americans were in a utter confusion. American soldier boys were running helter-skelter in shorts, some tumbled at the entrance as everyone wanted to come out at once, but it seemed they were minding little as they just stepped over their buddies to make the escape.

I had a narrow escape myself that night, but I kept telling myself. What a fool I was to come to South Vietnam to provide a bullet-shield for the U.S. aggressors. Invincible U.S.? It is a sheer nonsense.

Such is the lot meted out to the Yankees by the South Vietnam Liberation Army. So one can imagine how the South Korean and Saigon troops would be faring.

Let me tell just one story I heard from a wounded South Korean soldier. In a punitive operation a South Korean unit commanded by a Yankee officer killed all inhabitants in a village, young and old. But a while later a puppet Saigon armyman came there. It was his village. What did he find? All his family were murdered. The enraged soldier hurried to his unit to get some of his fellow soldiers. Soon the village turned

into a theatre of battle between the Saigon and South Korean troops. The panic-stricken American officer tried to stop the fight, but in vain. In the end he asked his superior for help. Soon U.S. planes appeared overhead and bombed the village. A fine example of American arbitration! Thus a good many South Korean soldiers fell.

In this way South Korean soldiers and officers were driven like a herd of cattle, and in the end died for nothing. This explains why more and more soldiers grew war-weary and bore hatred towards the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi band. In the barracks one can hear soldiers expressing homesickness.

TO THE PEOPLE'S SIDE

The Yankees show they are from the "home of brave" only when they attack defenceless villages and slaughter helpless people, and violate women before butchering them by cutting out the breasts and opening up the abdomen. This is not all. They ransack every house and set fire on it. Needless to say, on the battle field South Korean troops are made to take the blunt of the attack.

Can it be said that the Yankees are in South Vietnam, thousands of miles away from the continental United States, to fight for freedom and democracy? The answer is "No!" Absolutely not! They are there not for freedom, nor for collective defence. They have come to swallow this land.

Are South Korean troops there for collective defence against "menace from communism"? No! They are there only to provide a bullet-shield for the American pirates. There is no such thing as "menace from communism," to start with.

Now I began to see things from such an angle. It was painful for me to be in the South Korean unit; now and then a thought occurred to me. I should go over to the South Vietnam Liberation Army! Otherwise, I shall die for no good reason.

One day I went on an errand to Dalat via Saigon from Vung Tau. To go to Dalat from Saigon one has to pass through the liberated areas, and I learned that the "Vietcong" punish any Saigon or South Korean soldiers if they happened to come to the liberated areas, but treat kindly civilians even though they may come from the U.S.-controlled areas. Now I was sure that the "Vietcong" were upright men who show no mercy to the enemy but love boundlessly their own people.

The trip was decisive for me. After that I began to look for a chance to go over to the "Vietcong." And I pretended to work harder, too. At long last in September 1966 I slipped out of the barracks, unnoticed. But a close search was instituted without delay, and I could not move on to any area under the South Vietnam National Liberation Front. So I hid myself a

fortnight in a house in Saigon whose people I had known. When I told them what my intentions were, the family did everything to help me. They got a suit for me and fed me generously though they were by no means well off. Then they told me about the "Vietcong"—they are true patriots fighting to drive the invaders from their land. They helped me go to a liberated area. I only regret that I cannot reveal these people for obvious reasons. They helped me at the risk of their lives, and I shall be grateful to them as long as I live.

Thus I was in the liberated area. Suddenly militiamen appeared from nowhere levelling their guns at me and asked me who I was. I replied in Vietnamese I was a South Korean armyman but came over to them as I wanted to go to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I shall not dwell on the heartwarming reception the South Vietnam National Liberation Front gave me, but I must write about one incident.

That day they prepared a bath for me. When I was about to finish the bath U.S. planes raided the area. I fell flat under a tree. Bombs began to burst all around me. I thought they would get me. The very moment an officer of S.V.L.A. darted out of a nearby air-shelter and fell over me to cover. Yes, he wanted to save me with his body! Never in all my life had I ever experienced anything like that. I swallowed a lump in my throat. To them I was a perfect foreigner, but they were ready to give their own lives to save me as I had come over to them. They are fighting for justice and their people.

I stayed with them over six months; I enjoyed their cordial hospitalities and found life worth living. Short as my stay was, the six months taught me how man should live and what it means for man to fight for his land and people.

ALL FOR MY COUNTRY

As I requested, the South Vietnam National Liberation Front sent me to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, my true motherland. Now I am in the embrace of the country. I am so grateful to S.V.N.L.F. for what they have done for me.

When I was in the liberated area in South Vietnam, I was told very often how our country was prospering, but this is the first time that I see everything actually with my own eyes.

My train crossed the Amrok River and slowed down for Shineuijoo Station, the northwestern gateway to the country. As I stepped out of the train I saw the crowds of people on the platform. They were there to welcome me! Women and girls were in Korean costumes. How attractive they looked! The Korean dress that I saw my mother and sister in two years and a half ago when I left for South Vietnam. How long I had yearned for a sight of the Korean costume! I pictured it even in dreams.

To me the people on the platform were my mothers, sisters, fathers, and brothers. They said they were so sorry to learn that I had to go through such a painful life, but now I was in the embrace of Premier

Kim Il Sung and my life would be a happy one. And hundreds of cordial hands shook mine. Yes, they are my blood-kin. Words failed me to express my heart, only tears rolled down my cheeks.

Some hours later, I arrived in Pyongyang, the capital. I do not want to write lengthily about the welcome I had at the station. Only this much. Why all this? Who am I? I must add, however, that I simply do not know how to express my gratitude. I do not deserve all this.

"For the freedom and happiness of the people," and "the principle of independence and self-reliance"—these are some of the new terms I have learned since. And all these words stand for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. I feel my chest swelling. This is my country!

In Pyongyang I was at the electric locomotive factory, electric appliances plant, textile mill, Kim Il Sung University, Children's Palace, and many other factories and cultural institutions, then co-op farms in the outskirts. Everywhere I saw the might of our country and the brighter tomorrow, and heard songs of creativeness and happiness.

On the 1st of April I was at the grand meeting of school children of Pyongyang. The meeting was for celebrating the first day of the new school year under the new universal nine-year compulsory technical education. How moved I was! Now in our country all the children aged between 7 and 16 will receive schooling at the state expenses. Watching the parade of school pupils I said to myself. The South Korean children must see such a day, real soon too. Who are hindering the South Korean children from enjoying such a life? It is the U.S. aggressors and their stooges, the Pak Jung Hi clique.

This is where the workers and peasants are the masters of the country, all children get education, and farmers live in modern houses. This is where the people do not know exploitation and oppression; they are free from worries about food, clothing and housing. This is where the entire people, rallied firm round Premier Kim Il Sung, the great leader of the nation, are vigorously constructing a better society to live in. But who are hating and hostile to this country—the D.P.R.K.? It is the U.S. invaders and their Seoul puppets. I cannot repress a mounting indignation against the enemy.

Once I was a puppet South Korean armyman and levelled the gun at the D.P.R.K. What a shameful and criminal act it was!

Even now the soldiers of the puppet Seoul army level their guns at their brothers and sisters in the North on compulsion of Washington and the Seoul regime. But I am sure that the day will come without fail when they will see right from wrong and place their bayonets into the hearts of the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique, the arch enemies of the Korean nation.

In the warm embrace of the motherland and Premier Kim Il Sung, who is the father to our 40 million people, I am enjoying a good life. I am ready to do my best for the country and people. There lie my happiness and hope.



The Pyongyang city mass rally condemns the sinister moves of the Japanese government to suppress the rights of the Korean nationals in Japan to democratic national education

No Infringing the Right to Education

Of late the Japanese government has been suppressing in every way the rights of the Koreans in Japan to democratic national education.

It is working like mad to rush the "foreign school bill" through the Diet—a bill designed to prevent the Korean nationals in Japan from learning their mother tongue and geography, history, and culture of their own country. The Japanese ruling circles are saying that such education is inimical to the "interests" of Japan.

The "foreign school bill" will amend the existing law on foreign schools; it will put under government control the setting-up and management of these schools, the appointment of principals and teachers, and the contents of education. Moreover, under this bill, the Japanese government can order any foreign schools to close whenever it so chooses.

Most of the foreign schools in Japan are Korean schools. It is obvious, consequently, that

the new bill is drawn with a view to persecuting national education of the Koreans in Japan. It also shows that this is another scheme of the Japanese authorities to try to "japanize" the Korean nationals.

Thanks to the deep solicitude of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and to the devoted work of the Koreans in Japan, many Korean schools have been set up in Japan—the Korean University in Tokyo, numbers of primary, middle, high, and other schools in all parts of Japan. At present more than 40,000 Korean children are studying at these schools.

To hold democratic national education is the just and sacred national rights of the Koreans in Japan, citizens of the D.P.R.K., in the light of their legally constituted position and of the rights to education recognized today. No one can infringe upon it.

Most of the Koreans in Japan are those who were taken to Japan when Korea was under

Japanese occupation or those who proceeded there to seek a way to sustain themselves, and their children.

For the crimes they had committed in the past the Japanese rulers are legally and morally bound to guarantee life and national rights of the Koreans in Japan. Consequently, the discriminatory policy practised by the Japanese authorities against the Korean nationals in Japan is an insult to our compatriots and an act of hostility towards the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Now the Japanese government is branding the national education for the Korean children in Japan as anti-Japanese in its attempt to justify their unlawful acts. Who cannot see that all this is only to persecute the national education of the Koreans in Japan? It only lays bare the foul schemes of the Japanese authorities.

As a matter of fact, it is an open secret that the Japanese government is suppressing the national education of Koreans in Japan under the pressure of the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique that are set to use the question of Koreans in Japan as a bargaining tool in their unsavory political dealings. And, as far as the Japanese militarists are concerned, they know the whole thing will facilitate them to reinvade South Korea.

Such manoeuvres have become more naked since the conclusion of the "South Korea-Japan treaty."

The Korean people and their 600,000 compatriots in Japan are waging a resolute struggle for the inviolable rights of the Koreans in Japan.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the D.P.R.K. in its statement issued on March 17 condemned the illegal acts of the Japanese authorities and strongly demanded that the Jap-

Japanese people are doing political agitation in the streets to help the Korean nationals in Japan who are fighting for their rights to democratic national education



Koreans in Japan in a signature collection campaign to defend their rights to national education

anese government immediately abandon the sinister schemes of the "foreign school bill" and unconditionally guarantee the Koreans in Japan the rights to democratic national education as recognized by international law and practice.

In every district of our country mass meetings and demonstrations are being held to protest against the criminal schemes of the Japanese authorities.

The Korean nationals in Japan are also waging powerful struggles demanding the Japanese authorities to recognize their rights to democratic national education.

The righteous struggle of the Korean people enjoys positive support of all the progressive political parties, public organizations, and public figures of Japan and the peoples of the world. There is a powerful movement against the Japanese government's proposed bill to amend school laws.

With the active support of the world people including the Japanese people, the Korean people will fight unswervingly for safeguarding the rights of the Koreans in Japan to democratic national education. The Korean nationals in Japan must be ensured for rights to democratic national education immediately and unconditionally.

ANOTHER ELECTION FARCE IN SOUTH KOREA

WHAT they called presidential election was held again in South Korea on May 3.

An emergency was proclaimed throughout South Korea; the air was gripped with terrorism, and fraud and swindle were practised in broad daylight. Open voting, vote dumping, proxy votes, bogus votes, replacing ballot boxes bulging with votes were done everywhere to have Pak Jung Hi proclaimed as the winner.

At a polling place in North Kyungsang Province, it was found the voting box had been stuffed with 1,000 ballots for Pak Jung Hi; in Wonjoo a community unit head, a supporter of Pak Jung Hi, was exposed by Pak's political opponents that he was taking 500 ballots with him to the poll. Then at many places unsealed boxes and forged ballots were detected before counting.

In Taejun the number of ballots distributed was one and a half times larger than that of voters.

According to the South Korean press, the Seoul puppets invented 1,300,000 ghost voters to cast the ballot for Pak Jung Hi, while barring from voting more than two million who were against Pak Jung Hi. In some localities the votes had to be recounted three times before making the results public.

All this was openly done at the polls and ballot-counting stations with the connivance of policemen and plainclothes men.

In many parts of South Korea voters, opposition election observers, and reporters were arrested, beaten up, or bulldozed on the election day at the polling stations.

In short, the "presidential election" was another farce, like all the preceding ones, the making of Washington to embellish its colonial rule.

If there were any differences between the previous elections and the latest, more artfulness and more viciousness were outstanding. The Pak Jung Hi clique were fully aware that they would lose utterly in the Washington-stagemanaged election, if there was an iota of democracy in South Korea. Consequently, Pak Jung Hi left no stone unturned for his election: fascist laws and decrees were issued, soldiers and policemen were posted at necessary spots, the number of intelligence men and informers was increased, and more government-sponsored terrorists groups were organized. Thus, the puppet Seoul regime converted South Korea into a land of terrorism. Then the presidential candidates of the opposition parties were persecuted in every way.

Early this year 45 periodicals that had gone against the grain with the Seoul authorities were ordered to close, and a large number of journalists and politi-

cians arrested. On the eve of the election day over 1,000 people and opposition politicians were imprisoned.

Such was the picture of the election in South Korea. It also showed that the Pak Jung Hi clique, the most faithful servant of Washington, could not stay in power unless they rely on the strong arm of terrorism with the ever-expanding army, police, intelligence agencies, and terrorists.

Fraud and trickery plus hundreds of millions of won of the campaign fund made Pak Jung Hi "president" again. Nevertheless, the election returns revealed that despite all their desperation, the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique could not stifle the anti-U.S., anti-Pak Jung Hi regime sentiments of the people. Some 60 per cent of the entire electorate did not support Pak Jung Hi: despite the vote buying, threat, and honeyed words 2.3 million dodged the vote and six million voted against him or cast blank ballots.

The Pak Jung Hi clique, a vehicle of U.S. aggression, have been serving faithfully for Washington's colonial policies, while savagely repressing the patriotic democratic forces and people who demand their rights to life and democratic freedoms, national liberation and the country's reunification; they have driven South Korean youths to death in South Vietnam as cannon-fodder of the Yankee aggressors. They have turned completely South Korea into a U.S. war base; the South Korean puppet army has been constantly augmented, and provocations against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea have been stepped up with more fury.

Moreover, the traitorous South Korean puppet clique have opened the door for the Japanese militarists to reinvade South Korea so that they can align with samurai politically, economically, and militarily.

All these traitorous crimes of Pak Jung Hi and that ilk arouse indignation of the entire South Korean people.

The results of the recent fraudulent and terror "election" eloquently testify to the fact that the struggle of the South Korean people against U.S. colonial rule is intensifying and the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi clique are utterly isolated from and condemned by the people of South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists were more desperate than ever in making Pak Jung Hi re-elected to the "president," because he, faithful executor of the U.S. policy of aggression and war in Asia, is their most reliable among all their puppets and stooges.

The ruling circles of Washington and their publications have expressed a sense of satisfaction over the "re-election" of Pak Jung Hi; they are openly saying

THE WAR IS ESCALATING

It is three years since the Washington-engineered Bac Bo Gulf incident in August 1964. In those years the war in Vietnam has been escalated by Washington which is waving the olive branch of "peace" to hoodwink the world.

TO A MORE DANGEROUS POINT

The Bac Bo Gulf incident was the Pentagon's making for cooking up an excuse for intensifying the war in South Vietnam and expanding it gradually to the whole area of Southeast Asia. Washington chose this course in the hope to find a way to retrieve from the utter bankruptcy of its policy on this area and its "special war."

Since then ferocities of the American war-lords have become more bloody; the U.S. has carried on its Vietnam war with all the savagery, and it aggravated the climate in this part of the world.

For one thing, the Pentagon has steadily increased the number of U.S. troops in South Vietnam. The figure stood at 23,000 in 1964, but it was 180,000 in 1965, and about 400,000 by last December. Then the U.S. has mercenary armies from South Korea and other satellite countries. "Kill all, destroy all, and burn all!" is the diabolical war cry

of Washington in South Vietnam. Starting with the two dry-season offensives, they carried out one major operation after another; B-52's were sent to bomb the liberated areas, and toxic chemicals and poison gas were spread.

In August 1964 the U.S. started to attack North Vietnam both from the sea and from the air. Six months later the American air force began to raid the areas north of the 19th parallel. In the following year the bombings of U.S. air pirates reached the outskirts of Hanoi and the industrial installations and populated areas around Haiphong. Since June 1966 Hanoi and Haiphong have been targets of U.S. bombers. The indiscriminate bombings killed numbers of innocent people and destroyed industrial plants, roads, bridges, schools, churches, hospitals, sanatoria, dykes, and irrigation projects. In February this year the American heavy artilleries in South Vietnam shelled the northern part of the demilitarized zone and adjacent areas in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam; and U.S. 7th Fleet bombarded the coastal areas; and U.S. planes mined the rivers of North Vietnam.

In mid-March Johnson, his close associates, and their Saigon stooges met on Guam for a conference, the

sequence of Honolulu and Manila conferences last year, where, it should be recalled, the escalation of war was the sole topic. The Guam conference decided to step up offensive in the air, on the sea and ground against North Vietnam, while in South Vietnam the U.S. would increase still more the number of its troops, as well as that of mercenaries, bring in more weapons, and stage more "clean-up campaigns," and occupy South Vietnam permanently.

In April Johnson called in Washington a "conference of the foreign ministers of the seven participants in the Vietnam war" and a "Seato ministerial council meeting" to work out details for the new escalation plan adopted on Guam.

Johnson signed a supplementary money bill which would spend additional 12,200,000,000 dollars for the Vietnam war.

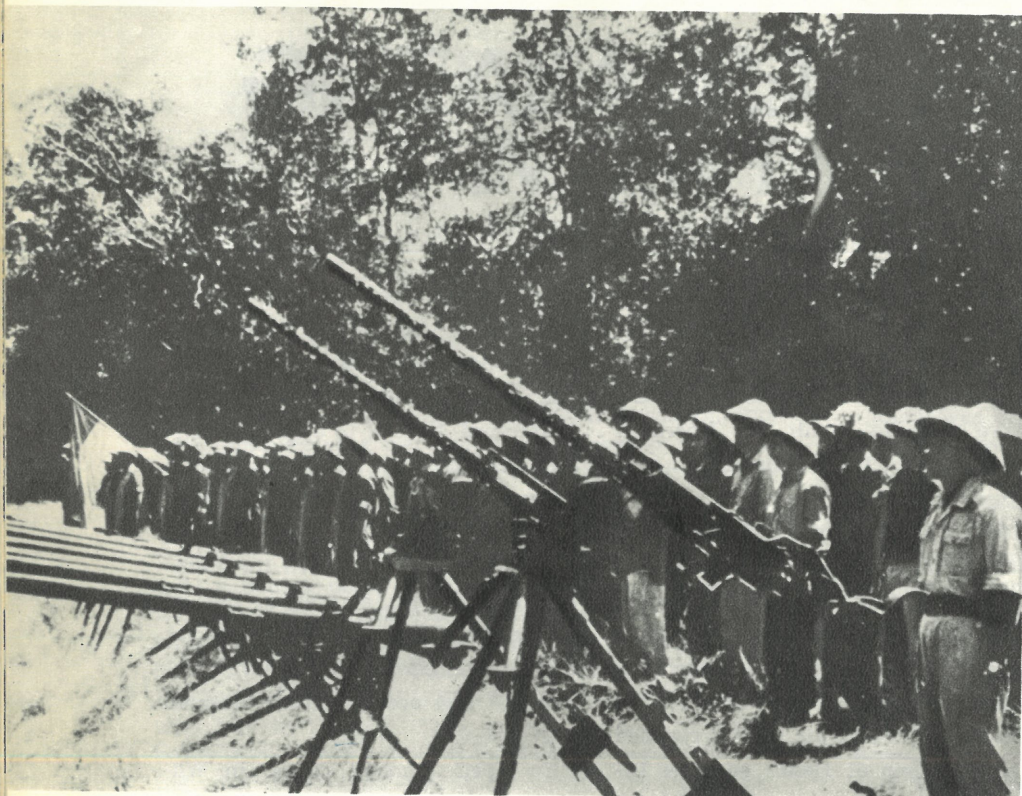
The Pentagon built a new B-52 base in Thailand. By March U.S. army strength in South Vietnam increased to 430,000 and the White House vested Westmoreland, commander of the American forces in South Vietnam, with the authority to take all necessary steps for the war expansion. No more do Johnson and other war-maniacs of Washing-

ton that it is only reasonable to expect from the recent "elections" new possibilities of sending more South Korean troops to South Vietnam.

The "presidential election" in South Korea laid bare once again the true colour of American "democracy" to the world. That is, the results of any "elections" in South Korea under U.S. occupation would be invented according to the shameful intentions of the occupation forces regardless of the will of the voters. U.S. imperialism is the root cause of all the misfor-

tunes and sufferings of the South Korean people and the main obstacle in the way of the country's reunification and democratic progress of South Korean society.

For the democratic development of South Korean society and the country's reunification by the Koreans tolerating no outside interference, the South Korean people are fighting to drive out the U.S. aggressors from South Korea and wipe out the Pak Jung Hi clique.



Fighters of the South Vietnam Liberation Army are resolved to sweep away the Yankee aggressors

ton hide their intention of widening the war. All this points to one thing—U.S. war escalation presents a more serious situation.

Johnson and his associates unceasingly utter their "desire for peace." But their actions betray their professed wishes for peace; they are escalating the war step by step.

SINKING IN THE QUAGMIRE

For the past three years Washington has tried everything most desperately to extricate itself from the quagmire in Vietnam. The situation has improved little for Washington. Even the U.S. *Christian Science Monitor* lamented: U.S. position in Southeast Asia is little different from one riding on the back of a tiger. For one thing, he cannot go on like this indefinitely, then he cannot get off easily either! He is in a dreadful predicament.

The more the Yankee imperialists expand the dirty war, the deeper their feet will sink in the quagmire in the face of the ever

intensifying resistance of the Vietnamese people and the mounting anger of the world people.

The South Vietnam Liberation Army and the guerillas hold the initiative in the war and foiled every offensive of the enemy, directing their main attacks on the Yankee troops. The enemy were made to suffer a greater loss in the "second dry-season offensive" than in the first one. Between late October and late November last year alone the South Vietnam Liberation Army and guerillas annihilated 11,400 enemy soldiers including 5,700 Yankees, downed or destroyed 70 planes, and wrecked 200 tanks and armoured cars.

In the Mekong delta and other areas the aggressors were stopped in all their offensives—"Deckhouse 5 operation," "Operations Cedar Falls and Junction City," for which the enemy paid dearly. Then U.S. army bases and headquarters have been repeatedly stormed. To cite just a few cases. At the dawn of

February 27 the Liberation Army and guerillas hit the U.S. airfield in Da Nang with trench mortars to destroy 94 planes and 200 military vehicles and put out of action more than 1,000 enemy soldiers. Then they shelled an American base in Bien Hoa province, reducing in a flash 40 warehouses to ashes and bursting 800,000 shells.

The South Vietnam National Liberation Front holds two-thirds of the total population and four-fifths of the territory of South Vietnam, and it enjoys great prestige and influence at home and abroad.

Like their brothers and sisters in South Vietnam, the People's Army and people in North Vietnam, firmly determined to defend the North and liberate the South and reunify the country, are fighting heroically against the invaders. On May 17th they shot down the 1,900th U.S. aircraft. In March five U.S. warships were damaged, American batteries in the area south of the 17th parallel were hit, 17 field guns and 57 war-vehicles were destroyed and more than 1,000 Yankees were killed.

The will of the Vietnamese people is unshakable as is pointed out by President Ho Chi Minh in February in his reply to Johnson. President Ho Chi Minh denouncing Washington's double-facedness, stated: "But in the face of the U.S. aggression, they (the Vietnamese people) have risen up, united as one man, fearless of sacrifices and hardships; they are determined to carry on their resistance until they have won genuine independence and freedom and true peace."

The people of the world stand by the Vietnamese people; in every corner of the globe the raging voices condemning U.S. aggression are heard, and the aid-Vietnam movements are gaining momentum encouraging the heroic people of Vietnam. In the meantime Washington is more isolated, even its friends are

deserting it.

All the fury and fuming will not help Washington. The U.S. may dump 500,000 men or even 1,000,000 in South Vietnam, but it would not save itself from its sealed doom.

UNCONDITIONAL STOP

Inevitable will be the ultimate defeat of the U.S. aggressors. Washington must end definitely and unconditionally the bombing and other war acts against North Vietnam, withdraw all U.S. and satellite troops from South Vietnam. The Vietnamese question must be solved by the Vietnamese people. President Ho Chi Minh wrote in his reply to Johnson: "The Vietnamese people will never submit to force; they will never accept talks under the threat of bombs."

Johnson's proposal on conditional termination of the bombing proceeds from the vicious end to prevent the North Vietnamese people from supporting the anti-U.S., liberation struggle of their brothers and sisters in South Vietnam, and to reduce the south into a colony by pacifying it. In other words, the U.S. government is asking the people that they should recognize the permanent partition of the land and U.S. "rights" to rule South Vietnam in return for suspending the bombing of North Vietnam.

But no one will accept this. Vietnam is one and the Vietnamese nation is one. It is the sacred national obligation and right for the people in the north to aid and support their compatriots in the south fighting against U.S. aggression and the traitors and for freedom and liberation. Nothing can hinder them from accomplishing their sublime mission. Johnson's criminal artifice to split the monolithic country and nation into two should not be tolerated.

Washington has not the slightest intention of restoring peace in Vietnam. The war-mongers need the word "peace" only to deceive others

and cover up their aggression.

Johnson and his followers habitually speak of "peace" and of "their determination to pursue it energetically," but their actions are not in keeping with their words. "War escalation" is the only thing they are interested in.

All the developments demand the progressive people must be united as one to intensify the joint action against the U.S. imperialists and push forward the vigorous movement to aid the fighting Vietnamese people so as to foil the U.S. war escalation strategy.

U.S. aggression in Vietnam is not only against the people of Vietnam and the socialist camp; it is a challenge to the national-liberation movement and a menace to peace in Asia and the world. When the world people help the Vietnamese people smash U.S. invasion, the bulwark of

imperialism and colonialism would face a total collapse, and the revolutionary movement in every country gain ground.

The Korean people will regard, as they have done, the struggle of the Vietnamese people as their own, stubbornly struggle against the Yankee imperialists, and do their utmost to aid the fighting people.

The sole and just solution of the Vietnam question is to implement the four-point position of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the five-point statement made by the South Vietnam National Liberation Front. The Korean people extend full support for this righteous stand. Final victory will be on the side of the Vietnamese people who have risen up for the righteous cause, and the American aggressors will fail utterly for sure.

The miserable end of an American helicopter in South Vietnam



Yankee soldiers melting away in South Vietnam



SOUTHEAST ASIA AND JAPAN

HONG SOO IL

THE imperialists have an acquired habit of distorting and forging history to cover up aggression and plunder.

Japanese militarism revived under U.S. patronage is no exception. Today Japanese militarism, a junior partner of Washington, is at pains to describe its criminal aggression and war that it had committed against the Asian peoples some twenty years ago as a "sacred cause to emancipate" Asia from the rule of the Western imperialists.

History, however, gives the lie to the claim of the Japanese militarists. Southeast Asia, like other parts of the Asian Continent, was a prey, not a friend, of Japanese militarism.

Little resources for raw materials made Japan always covet for the rich resources of oil, zinc, iron, and others of Southeast Asia and for its rubber and rice.

The Japanese ruling quarters had long talked about southward march in the hope to bring Southeast Asia with its abundant natural resources and the huge population under their fold. Their so-called Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere aimed at gaining control over the whole of Asia to form a "self-supporting economic sphere" under Japan's leadership and drive out its Western rivals.

Japan's southward march plan receded into the background for a time when the advocates of the northward march—a plan to invade China and the Soviet Union—got the upper hand in the Japanese ruling circles. But when the Japanese attempts to invade the Soviet Union came a cropper at Lake Hasan and Nomonhan and no quick victory was in sight in the Sino-Japanese war, the material resources and strategic position of Southeast Asia acquired greater significance in Japan's military operations. Now the southward march scheme once again came into the limelight.

Already in the first year of World War II, a spokesman of the Japanese government openly stated their aggressive designs on the Southeast Asian countries. Arita, the then foreign minister, said in June 1940: "Stability in Southeast Asia will decide whether or not the mission of Japan has been completed. Japan directs keen attention not only to the territory of China but also to the South Asian countries which have close economic relations with Japan."

Hitler's running over of France and the Netherlands and declining Britain presented an opportunity for Japan to bounce upon Southeast Asia.

After the surrender of France, Japan proclaimed an Asiatic Monroe doctrine, signed the aggressive military alliance with Nazi Germany and fascist Italy, and openly began to move southward.

The first victim was Indochina. Under the strength of agreements which were imposed upon the Petain government by Japan, Japanese troops occupied the northern area of Indochina. The subsequent mutual defence treaty for the area allowed Japan to seize the whole of Indochina. Now Japan became able to plunder this area of its natural resources, thus gaining a strategic position to swallow up Burma, Malay, the Philippines, and Indonesia.

On the outbreak of the Pacific war the Japanese government declared that they aimed in the war to build a base for the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" and "emancipate" the Asian people in an attempt to camouflage their aggressive ends. However, on December 16, 1941, the Japanese cabinet made it known what Japan's real intentions on Southeast Asia were. It said its policy primarily aimed to "meet Japan's needs for the most important natural resources, which will help to bring the war to an early conclusion. At the same time, Japan wants to set up a series of self-governments within the Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere and seek promptly means of augmenting the Empire's economic power."

The Japanese government set about redividing the colonies, dreaming Japan's domination of Southeast Asia.

Having seized a vast area of Southeast Asia, 3,800,000 square kilometres, with a population of 150,000,000, the Japanese imperialists enforced tyrannical military governments, resorting to every vicious means to persecute all organizations and patriotic people that demanded national independence and freedom. They killed innumerable innocent people, and mobilized and shipped away manpower and raw materials at will.

Unlimited plunder of raw materials and foodstuffs and satisfying the needs of their aggressive army was their economic policy. They ex-

ploited the native folks, dragged them out for forced labour, and used them as their bullet shields.

Under Japanese occupation the peoples of Southeast Asia experienced untold misfortunes and hardships. Hundreds of thousands of people were called out to build roads and military establishments, most of whom died of hunger, disease, or overwork. Taking some 18 months a railway line was laid to link Burma and Thailand. To that project, the Japanese army forced 150,000 men from Indonesia, Burma, Malay, and other areas; two-thirds of them 100,000 died. A doctored figure released by the Japanese government after its surrender revealed that 270,000 Indonesians were taken for forced labour, of whom only 70,000 survived.

Japan carried away a million tons of rice from Vietnam in 1943 alone, with the result that two million people starved to death in 1945. During Japanese occupation 1,100,000 people met their death in the Philippines.

Japan placed the finances of the occupied countries under its control to meet the occupation costs and all the expenses for shipping out minerals and other materials from those countries. The Japanese army issued military notes and bonds without security and exploited all the financial resources available. The money Japan wrested from those countries totalled 58,530,000,000 yen and the material wealth robbed reached 500,000,000,000 yen. All this worked havoc with the economies of the occupied countries, causing a serious shortage of food and consumer goods. Unlimited issue of securities by the occupation army aggravated a galloping currency and price inflation. Between 1941 and 1945 the prices zoomed 100 times in Malay, more than 140 times in the Philippines, 30-40 times in Indonesia, and 1,850 times in Burma.

Such a predatory policy brought abject poverty and starvation to the local population.

That was not all. The Japanese imperialists did everything to enslave the occupied nations spiritually as well. They looked down upon the peoples of those countries as inferior races, while noisily advertising their embellished "universal brotherhood principle" which in fact amounted to a claim on the "superiority" of the Japanese race. In reality, they were seeking to "japanize" the subdued nations. They frantically tried to infuse the worship of the Japanese Emperor into the peoples of the occupied countries, and popularized the Japanese language and culture. On the other hand, mass emi-



Japanese troops that occupied Southeast Asia at the time of the Pacific war

gration of the Japanese to their new colonies was encouraged.

Every mass meeting began with the participants bowing in the direction of the Japanese imperial palace and ended with shouting "Long live the Emperor!" The inhabitants were forced to hoist the Japanese flag on every Japanese holiday; at schools the Japanese language and history were made compulsory subjects.

The diffusion of any progressive ideology and culture was banned; all inhabitants were to show their loyalty to Japan, the alleged "leader of Asia," and pay respects to the "honour" of Japan.

All public organizations were dissolved but pro-Japanese ones. Terrorism and punitive operations against the local peoples were everyday occurrences, with the result that hundreds of thousands of peaceful citizens were put to death.

Towards the end of the war, the Japanese imperialists further intensified their fascist oppression and plunder.

However, the tyrannical conquerors who called themselves "friends" of the Southeast Asian peoples met with due resistance. The patriotic-minded people in the occupied areas waged struggles of all forms to cast off the Japanese colonial yoke and to expedite the final defeat of Japan.

All the facts serve to testify to the crimes perpetrated by the Japanese imperialists in the past during the Pacific war.

Today the Japanese militarists, under the patronage of Washington, are working hard to realize their old dreams of aggression on Asia. But they must know that times have changed and the Asian people are not what they were at the time of the Pacific war.

(To be continued)

HOTBED OF WAR

RECENTLY, Tsuchii, a former major general of the Imperial Army of Japan in the days of World War II and now president of the Continental Research Institute of Japan, demanded: It is the high time for Japan to amend the constitution and produce and possess tactical nuclear weapons.

His utterance was similar to remarks of Sato and some other high-ranking officials of Japan who want to see Japan armed with nuclear weapons. Of course, they always clothe their words with "peaceful utilization."

As is known, international pacts concluded at the end of World War II stand against rearmament and remilitarization of Japan. So stipulates the present constitution of Japan also.

Nevertheless, Washington has utilized to the full to its own end the fact that it is the sole occupation power in Japan; it has brought Samurai to life, reinforcing the latter's armed forces. Then Wall Street has fattened Zaibatsu which became enlivened thanks to the Korean war.

The National Police Reserve set up in 1950 after the outbreak of the Korean war was reorganized into the National Safety Force in 1952 following Washington's separate peace with Japan signed in San Francisco and the U.S.-Japan security pact; it took the name of Self-Defence Corps in 1954 in the wake of the conclusion of U.S.-Japan mutual defence and aid treaty. Then came the new security pact in 1960, which reinforced the Japanese forces still more under the joint U.S.-Japan operational programmes. Thus the Japanese armed forces known as Self-Defence Corps have over 300,000 men of three services with over 1,400 planes, the gross tonnage of 150,000 tons of vessels. And its firing power and mobility have increased five and eight times respectively over the pre-war years. It is important to note that over half of the total strength of the Japanese armed forces are officers and non-commissioned officers; this is a well-couched plan for a huge military strength at any time if necessary.

Now the U.S.-revived Japanese militarism foresees an easy overseas expansion riding on the back of the Pentagon's strategy on Asia.

The current "third five-year defence plan"—it has been inaugurated this year—calls for a Self-Defence Corps not only for local wars but for an all-out nuclear war. To this end, Tokyo will spend 6,500,000,000 dollars. They will get more guided missiles, nuclear weapons, and other modern arms, and further expand war industry. In the plan period five Hercules and four Hawk battalions capable of launching nuclear warheads will be added so that Japan can take part in any nuclear war on the side of Washington. The strength of the ground forces is to be augmented and the mobility sharply increased after the model of the U.S. 1st Air Mobile Division in South Vietnam. It will get more helicopters. The navy will have modern destroyers and submarines, over 70,000 tons in total, equipped with facilities for launching nuclear warhead missiles. The air force will receive additionally hundreds of imported and domestic long-range fighter-bombers and jet transports.

It is obvious from the foregoing that the defence plan is designed to increase mobility in anticipation of

sending troops overseas. Besides, the programme calls for an increase in the volume of weapons and other combat materials produced in the country for the armed forces. The figure will rise from 25 to 80 per cent. This will fatten the pockets of Zaibatsu and promote the growth of Japan's war industry.

The Japanese ruling circles are preparing for sending their units overseas. To this end, they are working to amend the constitution, but in the face of the people's resistance a new course had to be found. So they are to enact a law which will authorize Japanese military forces to become a member of the "U.N. forces" and be sent to foreign lands.

U.S.-Japan joint war games are often held around and in Okinawa, for which units of the Self-Defence Corps are used; this is another way of legalizing sending Japanese troops overseas under the name of "defence of the islands." The Japanese militarists, in co-operation with the Pentagon, have worked out such detailed plans for aggression on Asia as "Operation Three Arrows," "Operation Flying Dragon," and "Operation Bull Run."

All these war plans foresee another Korean war; according to them, as soon as the war starts Japan will proclaim a fascistic, general mobilization order while its armed forces in co-operation with the U.S. will bomb Korea and other Asian countries, enforce a blockade, and carry out landing operations.

Under the "Operation Bull Run" the Japanese armed forces will protect sea routes linking Korea, Taiwan, and the Philippines, and assume the "responsibility of maintaining order in Korea and other U.S.-occupied areas."

Moreover, under these aggressive plans, there have been repeated U.S.-Japan joint war games. As Korea is their target of aggression, all their frequent war games are directed against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In May the U.S. 7th Fleet conducted large-scale war manoeuvres on the East Sea with Japan's sea self-defence corps, which was followed by another joint naval exercises—this time the U.S. 7th Fleet and the puppet South Korean navy.

All this shows, in the light of the existing bilateral military pacts between the U.S. and Japan and between the U.S. and South Korea, Tokyo, to all intents and purposes, has a tripartite military pact with Washington and Seoul, and is the vanguard of aggression against Korea and other Asian countries under U.S. command.

Today Japan is partaking in U.S. aggression in Vietnam. Japan is a supply base for the U.S. war in Vietnam, it produces weapons and other war goods needed by the U.S. imperialists; it repairs U.S. war machines damaged in Vietnam. Japan is also an operational base of U.S. aggression against Vietnam. This is not all. Japan's Defence Agency maintains a mission in Saigon. Japan has dispatched a military mission to South Vietnam. Thus the Japanese militarists have assumed openly the role of a U.S. partner.

All these facts show one thing. In conspiracy with Washington the revived Japanese militarists have turned their country into a hotbed of war, threatening peace in Asia and the world.

THE YOUTH OF BRAZZAVILLE

KIM OK BAI

The people of the Congo (B) celebrate their independence day on August 15. As the day draws near, I recall the mass game "A Flame of Revolution" performed at the Revolutionary Stadium in Brazzaville on August 15 last year, in which four thousand boys and girls took part.

All youngsters did very well, every motion and every movement was well regulated and co-ordinated. The children on the stand provided a good live-background giving successfully many letters and figures. Looking at their fine performances, I thought that everything indicated their love of the country and their confidence in the bright morrow.

How hard they worked for the day! They minded little the equatorial sun, nor did they mind repeating, when necessary, for better results. Everyone was proud of his country, now free. No wonder they worked so diligently.

Their fine performance showed that nothing was impossible for the people who won freedom and independence and that they could create their own culture and arts.

At the same time, I could not help recalling what the Pak Jung Hi clique of South Korea once said about Africa. These were his words. "There is neither culture nor art in Africa. Nor do the people have history. It is a deformed society where primitiveness and modern exist side by side."

Such is how the running dogs of U.S. imperialism slander our African friends who are fighting to safeguard their independence and sovereignty and to reject old and new colonialism. I can hardly restrain my anger at the imperialists and their puppets.

Today, the Congolese (B) people holding firmly "rifle in one hand and

plow and hoe in the other" are resisting successfully the aggressors and building a new life under the leadership of President Massamba-Debat. I also saw how much the youth of the country hated new colonialism and valued their independence; they are firmly determined to protect their country at all costs. I had a chance to attend an opening ceremony for a pioneers' camp, where a boy read a revolutionary poetry. His verses called upon the people to be more vigilant against the enemy and carry on the revolution to the end.

I am sure that the future of the Congo (B) with its industrious and enthusiastic and well-disciplined youth will be a blessed one and that the friendship between the peoples of Korea and the Congo (B) sharing common aims will strengthen further.

Children of the Congo (B) are preparing for the mass callisthenics



FINAL VICTORY WILL BE YOURS

SOW MOUSSA DEMBA

Delegate of the Union of
Labourers of Mauritania

AS I take the plane for the Republic of Mauritania, a new country in a different world from Korea, in the central part of French-speaking west Africa between Black Africa and White Africa, with an area of 1,100,000 square kilometres and a population of 1,500,000, I wish to say a few words through your magazine about my stay in Korea.

Above all, I would like to express my best wishes for the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, and the heroic Korean people in the name of the entire working-class of Mauritania, whom I had the honour of representing in the May Day celebrations in your country—May Day, the day of demonstrating the militant strength of the working people of the world.

During my stay in your country I had the opportunity to look around many factories and enterprises and visit the Military Demarcation Line at Panmunjom.

Everywhere I went, I was cordially welcomed; the Young Pioneers wearing red neckpieces saluted me, and the people greeted me with cheerful cries of "Manse"—long live!

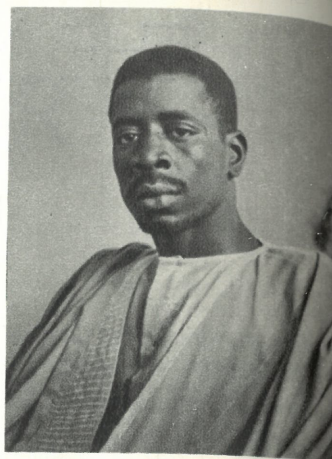
Everywhere I witnessed your economy rapidly growing and developing. I also saw your towns and villages being built employing both

traditional architecture of Korea and modern architecture, the ever improving people's life, and your brilliantly flowering national culture.

These were the realities I was confronted with in this country. Before coming here what I had thought was that I would see an underdeveloped agrarian country with backward industries!

I witnessed the rapidly advancing socialist construction and diversified industries; I saw many first-class enterprises; the Kangsun Steel Works was one of them. The working people were endeavouring to augment the productivity and turn out more things of better quality. They were working devotedly in response to the call of their beloved leader Premier Kim Il Sung; they were enthusiastic and sincere in their endeavours to help their brothers and sisters in South Korea when Korea is reunified.

Concerning Korea's reunification, I appeal to all the progressive forces of the world to register their voices with their own governments for the withdrawal of all foreign troops including the U.S. army from South Korea. No interference of the United Nations in the internal affairs of Korea should be tolerated; the reunification issue should be settled by the Koreans themselves allowing no outside interference.



The author

Before my departure from your country I assure you that the working-class of Mauritania has always supported and is supporting all the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America who are fighting for independence and self-determination.

We condemn the dirty U.S. war of massacre in South Vietnam.

We also condemn the Americans who stage provocations on the Military Demarcation Line in Korea in an attempt to launch a third world war and cloak their defeats in Vietnam from the world. No matter whatever means they may employ, never can the U.S. imperialists stamp out the soaring flames of the Korean people's struggle for the country's reunification.

Bravery, diligence, patriotism, and the firm spirit of unity—these are the factors which enable the visitors to understand that Korea today is neither what it was under the rule of the Li dynasty, nor what it was under the rule of Japanese imperialism.

Final victory will surely be yours, the heroic fighters of Korea.

Stom

My Impressions on Korea

BENOIT FRACHON

Secretary-General, French General
Confederation of Labour



The author

THIS has been my first visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; I came here on the eve of May Day.

Even before the trip, of course, I had known something about Korea. Like most of the workers, I read and heard with keen interest all the news about Korea, a member of the socialist camp. Like those who had observed the events in Korea between 1950 and 1953, I too knew of the heroic Korean people fighting against the U.S.-launched aggressive war, and of the crimes and devastation U.S. imperialism, the Attila of the 20th century, caused.

Through magazines, newspapers or delegates who had been to Korea, we had learned how Korea had healed the war-wounds, reconstructed the country, and began to rehabilitate their economy on a wider and more modern base; in this they exhibited their untiring zeal and staunch will. So, I had been well prepared. (At least I thought so.) Nothing would surprise me, I thought. But everything has been beyond my expectation from the first day in Pyongyang.

I was at the industrial-agricultural exhibition. At the machine-tool hall I saw numbers of latest and most advanced machine-tools. Then I expressed my wish to visit the factory where those very machines were made and talk to the workers. My request was granted, and I visited the plant and several others, a big modern chemical fertilizer factory included.

This land which was ruled by Japanese imperialism and remnants of feudalism till the end of World War II, has today industrial giants that employ 4,000-6,000 workers,

sometimes as many as 10,000, though it did not experience monopolistic capitalism. Such developments necessarily call for the training of numbers of able engineers, technicians, and skilled workers. And this was the case with Korea, too.

Space does not allow me to dwell on in detail the policies of the D.P.R.K., and I confine myself to relaying what the leading personnel of the machine plant told me.

He said his factory had been an insignificant and out-dated one; and there were no Korean technicians when the country was liberated, but now the number of engineers and technicians alone is 1,500. Most of the technical personnel were trained in the country at the regular colleges, the technical courses or at the spare-time college the plant is running. Some studied in other socialist countries. Despite all these impressive figures, I must add, the cadres of the plant were not boastful; and the workers, on their part, said they should improve their skills and gain experience as most of them do the work for the first time. But the factory is turning out various machines of high efficiency. Similar advances are to be noted in all phases of the country's economic and social life.

Speaking of all these successes of the Korean nation, I must stress that everything was rebuilt on the war debris—the Yankee imperialists had played havoc with the country and the devastation and ruin were beyond one's imagination. Needless to say, Korea has won such an economic upsurge not at the expense of the working people as is the case with the capitalist countries; on the contrary, great efforts have been

exerted to make the rising production serve the promotion of the living standard of the people.

* * *

The resolute advance of the Korean people towards communism has not been made in a quiet, peaceful atmosphere. The vicious Yankees are still in the southern part of the country, lording it over there. They refuse to draw a lesson from their bitter defeat that they suffered in Korea when they attempted to seize the whole of Korea and their adventure ended in signing the armistice at Panmunjom in 1953. The U.S. imperialists are still under a great illusion.

I saw the Yankees on the 38th parallel; they were standing on sentry. (The Yankees do not trust South Korean soldiers, so they themselves are guarding the parallel.) Lately they have intensified provocations against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and violated its air space repeatedly. Some U.S. planes were shot down. Not long before our visit to Panmunjom, they conducted another unpardonable crime to shoot to death five civil police personnel of the D.P.R.K. side who were on a routine patrol in the demilitarized zone.

Our Korean friends told us that the Yankees had systematically perpetrated such acts of provocation and aggression in an attempt to wrong the climate and start new aggression. But the D.P.R.K. is fully aware of all the threatening dangers; and its population is taking all necessary steps to cope with the situation.

I witnessed their readiness in the May Day celebrations. This country had to exert efforts to fortify national defences, though it may affect the growth of its economy.

Our Korean comrades are asking for the unity of the world people to aid the Vietnamese people who are fighting to remove such threats and drive out the invaders from their country.

The Koreans praised highly the internationalist spirit of the French working class and its struggle for independence of the oppressed peoples. I gave an assurance that the General Federation of Labour and working class of France would be faithful to this internationalist duty and extend, as always, amity and solidarity with Korea whenever the occasion calls for. I am sure that this affirmation is not groundless, nor is it an exaggeration of the feelings of our toiling masses towards the people of Korea.

In conclusion I must speak of the one idea—the strongest aspiration—that one can feel in talks with Korean friends and in all their doings; it is their aspiration to reunify their country divided because of the cunning interference and aggression of the U.S. imperialists and U.S. occupation of the southern part of this land.

To the people of Korea, who had fought for centuries against the foreign conquerors and invaders, especially against the Japanese militarists, the division of their country is the most acute pain.

Our ancestors had repulsed the invaders at Valmy and we ourselves resisted the Hitlerites and their stooges for more than four years. Then would it be possible for us French people not to share the most moving sentiments of the people of Korea, so inspiring to us? Would it be possible for us French people not to express our unrelenting sympathy with the efforts of the people of Korea who are endeavouring to realize their noble dreams?

Stalin

KOREA'S WILDLIFE

Korea with its numerous mountains and rich floral life has some 100 species of wild animals.

The tiger is regarded as most ferocious; in the tiger family are Korean tigers, leopards, and lynxes.

The Korean tiger has been made a protected animal by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. The ground-colour of the body is fawn marked with transverse stripes of black colour, its tail is striped with some eight "rings" of dark colour.

Tiger is swift and quick.

Leopard, whose body is slim, is also swift and powerful. Sometimes they kill even their own cubs.

These animals are found in forests of the northern regions of our country.

try.

Besides these beasts, there are also bears and boars.

The weakest of all animals is the Korean water-deer which inhabits almost all regions of our country—northwestern, eastern, and southern parts.

Deers give antlers, which are valued for medicinal effects.

The antlers weight four kilograms in two to three years.

Of other species, otters, sables, badgers, foxes, raccoons, and squirrels give fine furs. Among them the otter fur is valued most, the colours coming in dark brown, light grey, and light yellow.

The Government is taking special measures to protect these animals.

Stamps of KOREA

"INCREASED PRODUCTION AND ECONOMICIZATION"

The Ministry of Communications of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued last year a set of four stamps on increased production and economicization.

These stamps feature the working class of our country who are exhibiting a new high tide of upsurge in the country's socialist construction.

Stamp 1, 5 jun, "Construction Projects."

Stamp 2, 10 jun, "A Higher Output per Capita."

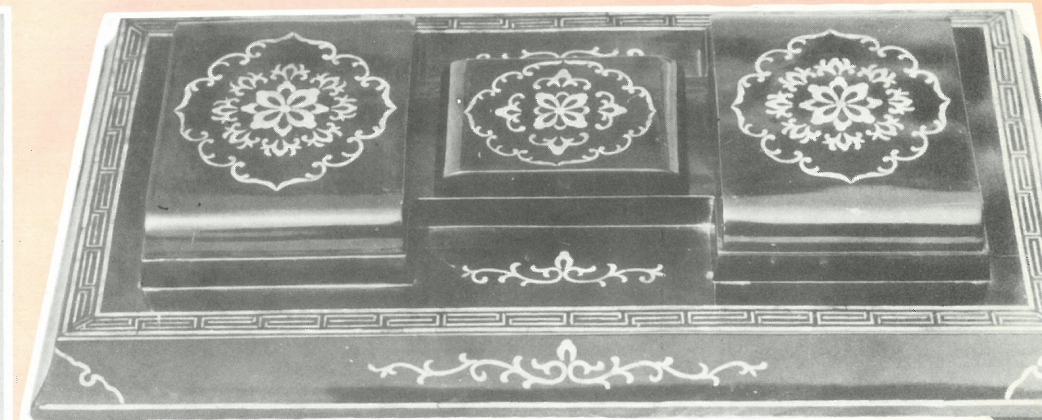
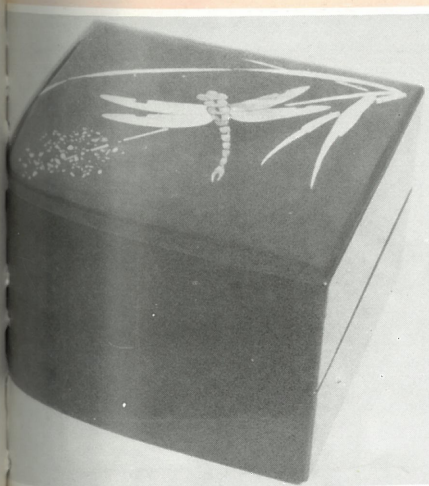
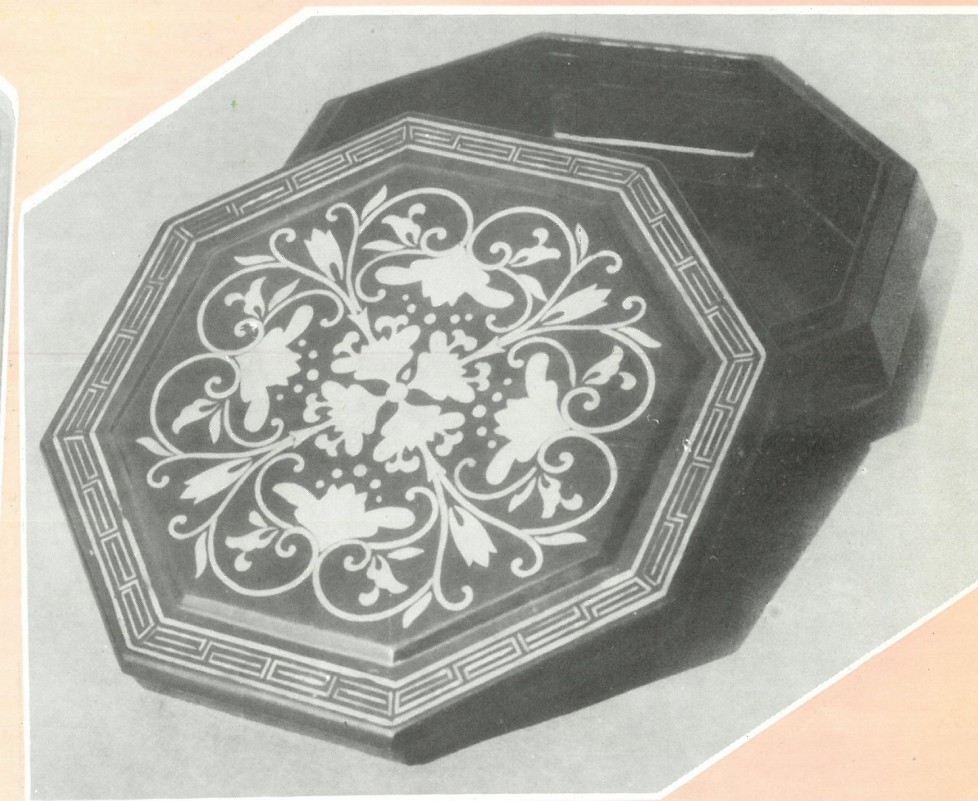
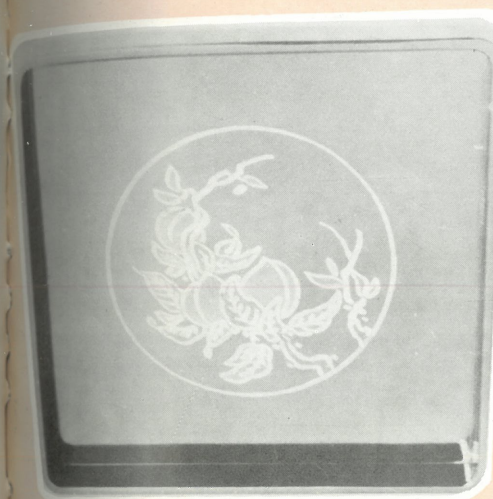
Stamp 3, 10 jun, "Strict Economicization."

Stamp 4, 40 jun, "Mining Industry First."

All stamps measure 42×23 mm.
Multi-colour. Offset



Korea's Arts and Crafts



KOREA GENERAL MERCHANDISE EXPORT & IMPORT CORPORATION
Cable Address: "ILYONG" Pyongyang



A color photograph of a traditional Korean pavilion with a tiled roof, where a group of children in school uniforms are sitting on a low wall. The pavilion is situated near a body of water, and the scene is surrounded by lush green trees and foliage. The image is labeled "No. 13502" in the top left corner.

The East Oriental Library
& Far Eastern Collections

Korea Today

DEC 11 1967

PYONGYANG No. 136 1967

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